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MILITARY AFFAIRS

No. 1733

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CONTENTS

WARSAW PACT AND GROUPS OF FORCE

Political Indoctrination in the Southern Group of Forces (I. Ovcharov; KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL, Aug 82)	1
--	---

ARMED FORCES

Military Life Discussed, Described (Various sources, various dates)	5
Lives of Three Tankmen Discussed, by N. Sautin Biographic Sketches of Naval Infantrymen, by A. Murtazayev, M. Serdyukov Draftee Send-off, by M. Dmukhovskiy Airborne Soldier, by V. Ustyuzhanin Soldier's Allegiance, by A. Chumakov Mother's Send-Off, by N. Chalapova Paratrooper's Service, by A. Pozdnyakov Komsomol Construction Sites, Nikolay Nikolayevich Moskvina Interview	
Table of Contents of 'KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL' No 15, Aug 1982	21
Multinational Character of Soviet Armed Forces Discussed (V. Samoylenko; KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL, Aug 82)	23
Political Training in the Transbaykal Military District (V. Lomov; KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL, Aug 82)	31
Indoctrination Guide on Defense of the Homeland (G. Petrenko; KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL, Aug 82)	34
Discipline Articles in Military Journals Evaluated (A. Solov'yev; KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL, Aug 82)	45

Attention Paid to War Widows Assessed, Improved (KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, various dates)	52
Treatment of Soldiers' Widows Discussed, by A. Khorev Follow-Up Report on Soldiers' Widows Article	
GROUND FORCES	
Tankmen's Day: Material for Talks and Reports (KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL, Aug 82)	59
Mountain Training in Motorized Rifle Regiment Described (V. Lokhov; KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL, Aug 82)	63
NAVAL FORCES	
Naval Training Discussed (KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, various date)	71
Problems in Training On-Board Specialists, by V. Mel'nikov, A. Gorshkolepov Sr Lt Red-Taped Into Reserves, by V. Pron'kin On Officer's Professional Qualities, by A. Kalinin Staff Officers' Work Discussed, by F. Osipov	
German Source Describes Missile Cruiser 'Kirov' (VOLKSARMEE, No 41, 1982)	83
DOSAAF AND MILITARY COMMISSARIATS	
Editorial Pegged to 8th Plenum USSR DOSAAF CC (Editorial; SOVETSKIY PATRIOT, 18 Apr 82)	85
Scientific-Practical Conference on Improving Training Reported (SOVETSKIY PATRIOT, 18 Apr 82)	89
MILITARY SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES	
Military Education Discussed (KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, various dates)	99
Training of Military-Scientific Personnel, by A. Volkov Lt Gen A. Mironov on Leadership Qualities, by A. Mironov Government Exams at Academies Discussed, by M. Zakharchuk Link Training With Practice, by V. Ul'yanov Graduates' Progress Examined, by V. Zhitarenko, I. Sapuntsov Practical Training for Instructors, by F. Neupokoyev 'Vystrel' Courses Outlined, by G. Miranovich	

WARSAW PACT AND GROUPS OF FORCES

POLITICAL INDOCTRINATION IN THE SOUTHERN GROUP OF FORCES

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 15, Aug 82 (signed to press 19 Jul 82) pp 49-54

[Article by Col I. Ovcharov, chief of propaganda and agitation department, deputy chief of political directorate, Southern Group of Forces: "Concreteness and Effectiveness for Oral Propaganda"]

[Excerpt] Our party uses a large arsenal of forms, means, and methods for ideological work in the communist indoctrination of the Soviet people, including the men of the Armed Forces. A special place in it is occupied by oral propaganda and agitation. They play an important role in the molding of a scientific world outlook, an active life's position, and lofty ideological and moral qualities of the Soviet people. Oral propaganda and agitation are also active forms for the constant and living tie of the party with the people and an important means for implementing the political leadership of all socio-political and economic processes and mobilizing the workers and the men of the Armed Forces for the successful putting of the plans for communist construction into practice.

Proceeding from this, it can be stated that the entire complex of measures connected with raising the quality and effectiveness and a certain restructuring of ideological work in accordance with contemporary requirements also pertains completely to oral propaganda and agitation. In the materials of the 26th CPSU Congress and the decree of the party Central Committee, "On further improvement of ideological and political-indoctrinational work," special attention is devoted to ensuring a high scientific level and intensifying the efficiency, specificity, and connection of propaganda and agitation with life and the development of their aggressiveness.

In accomplishing the task for the further improvement of oral propaganda, official and ad hoc propagandists of our group of forces have attained certain favorable results. To a great extent, this became possible because the political directorate and political organs display constant concern for the theoretical training and growth in the methodological skill of the propagandists. Assistance for them is organized in various directions.

For example, we saw to it that the methodological offices and reference-information centers began to devote more attention to the development of methodological advice and recommendations for propagandists in work with primary sources and in the practice of using their provisions in oral presentations.

Great attention is devoted to strengthening the connection between propagandist presentations and the real deeds of one or another troop collective. The approach to the preparation of the presentation of an official or ad hoc propagandist itself changed. Naturally, the lecturers of the political directorate give the lead in this first. The majority of their presentations are methodological lessons for all the agitation and propaganda activists. Arriving at one or another unit, lecturers Colonels G. Ushatik, V. Novikov, and A. Mamykin become acquainted with its life and the activity of the party and Komsomol organizations. And only after this, armed with factual material, they appear before one or another category of personnel. It is from these positions that we also strive to approach the organization of presentations of the leader personnel--officers of the staff and directorates of the group of forces and the large units and, first of all, during the conduct of common days for political lessons. In the course of them, the most varied problems, including those connected with life and combat training, are explained to the personnel. The lecturers and speakers give answers to the majority of the questions which arise immediately after the presentations. But it also happens that some questions require additional study together with the command of the unit or subunit and only after this are the people given explanations and informed on measures which have been adopted or planned.

As an example, take such an important direction in the work of propagandists and agitators as an explanation of the decisions of the May (1982) plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. This important matter required of the comrades, first of all, thorough personal preparation and a deep study of a number of problems which many of them had not previously encountered closely. And, as practice shows, the overwhelming majority of our propagandists coped successfully with this task. I was convinced of this having attended a number of lectures and talks.

For example, a member of the agitation-propaganda group with the party committee of the N-th unit, Major V. Slepchuk, called his presentation, "The Food Program--a nationwide matter." In it, he made a profound analysis of the party's agrarian policy, showed clearly and in a well-reasoned manner the economic and social changes in the village, and explained the immediate and long-range tasks which have been put forward for the workers of the village, the food industry, and other branches of the country's national economy by the Food Program and the decrees of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers which were approved by the May plenum of the party Central Committee.

Nor was such a question as the necessity for a regard for state property and for everything created by the labor of the people side-stepped in the lecture. The propagandist stressed especially the thought from the report of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev that it is necessary to wage a struggle against losses not only in the spheres of agricultural production and the transportation of produce, but also in the sphere of consumption. For there are many possibilities here, too, for the servicemen to participate in the common cause of the nation. It is the saving of grain and fuel and consideration for equipment and all military property. Major V. Slepchuk then presented a number of examples and facts from the life of the unit which show that individual servicemen are not displaying responsibility in the storage of material valuables, and he mentioned their names. The ad hoc propagandist spoke impassionedly and with deep feeling about the necessity to have a considerate and respectful attitude toward grain.

The officer's presentation helped the men to understand correctly their role and place in the solution of state problems and to have a deeper realization of their responsibility for ensuring the peaceful labor of the Soviet people.

Unquestionably, preparation for a presentation on a certain subject is an important stage in the propagandist's activity. But, you see, the success of a public presentation is caused by many factors--the propagandist's constant concern for the theoretical depth of the presentations, undeviating observance of the principles of Marxism-Leninism, reliance on them in the consideration of specific phenomena of life, and the vividness and emotional nature of the word. All this determines the creative basis of oral propaganda--that important part of political-indoctrinational activity.

A question arises in this connection: are all our propagandists constantly equipped with thorough knowledge of the theory, practice, and principles of ideological work?

Recently officers of the political directorate's department of propaganda and agitation inquired of several officers while working in the regiments: how do they understand what makes up the aggressiveness of oral propaganda and all political-indoctrinational work? It was learned that the comrades reduce it only to the necessity to make more active the exposure of ideological subversion of our class enemy. Well, undoubtedly this part of ideological work is important; however, aggressiveness is a much broader concept. First of all, it is the support of what is new and advanced, and a decisive struggle against sluggishness, routine, stereotype, and simplification--against everything which hinders raising the level of indoctrinational activity and combat training.

Aggressiveness is determined by the effectiveness of the influence of propaganda and agitation on the molding of the ideological conviction of the personnel, the men's life position, high political vigilance, and a readiness to defend the motherland. It envisages active propagandizing of the successes of real socialism and Soviet foreign policy and the profound explanation of the significance of collaboration of the socialist commonwealth's countries as well as of the dangerous development of the contemporary military-political situation and the aggressive essence of imperialism, primarily of the United States and its minions.

The approaching jubilee of our state is creating the broadest possibilities for intensifying this aspect of propaganda. Now there can be no talk of raising the aggressiveness of political-indoctrinational work and oral propaganda without realization of the specific instructions of the CPSU Central Committee's decree, "On the 60th anniversary of the formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics," on improving work on the ideological-political, patriotic, and international indoctrination of the personnel and intensifying their class tempering.

The political organs and political officers of units as well as party and Komsomol organizations, in implementing the requirements of this decree, presented the basic content and organization of oral propaganda and agitation in accordance with them.

All this work is directed toward raising its level, disclosing even more actively and purposefully the great transforming role of Marxism-Leninism and the creative contribution which is being introduced in it by our party and Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, and propagandizing the historic advantages and achievements of socialism,

the successes in implementing the Leninist national policy, the actual achievements of the union and autonomous republics of our country, and the course of the 26th CPSU Congress for the steady growth in the material and cultural standard of living of the Soviet people.

Special attention is devoted to exposing facts of imperialism's interference in the internal affairs of sovereign states and attempts to impose its will on them using threats, political and economic pressure, and military blackmail. The combat traditions and heroic achievements of the Soviet Armed Forces are widely propagandized and the necessity to raise vigilance and combat readiness is explained.

These contemporary tasks of oral propaganda are large-scale, and their significance for the communist indoctrination of the personnel and the molding of the necessary moral-political and combat qualities in them is exceptionally great. Only those propagandists who were deeply imbued with a sense of personal responsibility for the improvement of the ideological-political, moral, and military indoctrination of the servicemen are capable of accomplishing them in a high-quality manner and in an aggressive spirit.

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ARMED FORCES

MILITARY LIFE DISCUSSED, DESCRIBED

Lives of Three Tankmen Discussed

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Nov 82 p 6

[Article by IZVESTIYA special correspondent N. Sautin, Order of Lenin Moscow Military District: "Life of the Soviet Armed Forces: Three Tankmen"]

[Text] The damp, gusty wind which burst into the wide-open doors of the bay helps us throw off the canvas cover which shrouded the steel hulk of the tank. Gds Pvt Ivan Romanyuk throws back the vehicle hatch and lowers himself to the driver-mechanic's seat. The engine began its roar.

We clamber onto the armor. Tank commander Gds Sgt Aleksandr Zaytsev disappears in the right hatch. I am to make my way to the area of the practice firing in the left hatch, in the gunner's seat.

I was brought to this crew by letters from IZVESTIYA readers containing both a request of frontlinesmen to tell about the modern formidable vehicles, the predecessors of which were famed on fields of the Great Patriotic War, and letters from soldiers' parents. Their emotion and interest are understandable: Just how are their sons serving in the tank troops? Here, for example, are lines from a letter by Khar'kov resident war veteran B. Maksimenko: "We would crawl out of the T-34 tank after combat as dirty-faced as devils, deafened by the noise of engines and the jolting..." I'll begin with this.

I will say right away that even now the field fire exercise is a difficult school, but the frontlinesman will envy the crews of military personnel of the 1980's. Under the armor it is warm, clean and, I would say, even cozy. You descend through the hatch to a soft seat with a back. You press a small lever on the side and the "armchair" raises you or lowers. True, it is rather cramped: The modern tank is filled with gear for control, communications and for conducting effective fire.

Before the gunner's eyes are devices permitting him to see everything roundabout and fire accurately. They'll shut the hatch and the road will move and the groves will flash by in the triplex, the thick glass filling the narrow slits in the armor.

The multiton tank moves easily with the speed of a motor vehicle. We can go on this way nonstop day and night, for tens of kilometers. You don't feel it when the vehicle jumps from the concrete to a bumpy country road, and only from the engine's song--first measured and quiet, then raising its voice--do you guess that we now flew up a steep hill, descended, or went looping along a narrow rut amidst a birch grove.

The road, which tumbles sideways and plunges downward, is trampled by iron tracks while the crew in the turret hangs as it were on elastic suspension between the wheels shod with track links, and the eyes placed to the rubber rings of instruments are clearly roundabout. In skirting marshy soil in a narrow place, the tank hits an ancient stump of a dead oak. The tree, which two people couldn't reach around, is brushed away like a matchstick. Not the slightest jolt is felt in the tank. That is how it can go through the brickwork of structures, demolish and trample steel obstacles, and crush other barriers in its path.

Engine noises are damped in the buttoned-up interphone headset. I hear the orders of company commander Gds Sr Lt Aleksandr Sherstyuk. His tank is in the lead. I shift the switch lever and converse with members of "my" crew. The commander is a meter to my right. We are separated by the breech end of the gun. If you bend over you see the interphone headset and shoulderboards of the driver-mechanic in the gap between instruments and metal. He is sitting, enclosed in armor, somewhere at the level of our feet. In the turret it seems we are on the second floor, beneath a steel cupola which when necessary obediently turns to any side, laying the gun on the target.

We move into the hills from the forest. The tank floats through the bushes as if on waves. I ask the driver-mechanic about the speed. "The speedometer shows 40," answers Ivan Romanyuk. "Tell me how you control the tank." "The usual way, like any driver. I use the left foot to press the clutch pedal and brake, and the right foot on the accelerator..." Our "driver" is a Belorussian from Gomel Oblast. He completed vocational-technical school and received the specialty of joiner. He worked a couple of months just before the Army in a field husbandry brigade along with his mother. His native village of Burki is proud of him. All his neighbors watched last year's 7 November military parade on television. And how! Their countryman drove a tank over Red Square.

"I had not been in the capital previously," says Romanyuk without tearing himself away from the control levers, "although I dreamed of it. And this is how it happened--I entered Moscow in a tank... It's true that there was no time to turn my head to look at the sights. And I was very nervous. But I went confidently over the country's main square, like the other lads from our tank division. They wrote me from Burki that I drove best of all..."

Firing already was rumbling on the range--the regiment's 2d Battalion was taking a fire test. They were firing authorized rounds--live ones. It seemed the low clouds were absorbing the red reflection of the burning fragments of hit targets. I gave up the gunner's seat to 1st Battalion Komsomol leader Gds Sgt Ivan Petik. After taking up the position, the tank accurately blew the

targets to bits. The rounds struck down the "enemy" even though he maneuvered and showed cunning.

After the "fight" gunner Petik sat down on the armor, removed his interphone headset, presented his black locks to the wind, began smoking a "Java" and began to speak:

"We have such equipment that one feels ashamed to miss with it. Of course a crew has to sweat a bit in firing the authorized rounds. But right here is where you understand that soldiers are not born, they are made. You can confirm the high title of Soviet guards tankman only on the field of 'battle.' In the modern tank all processes are mechanized and automated. When you press the right button, the gun fires. When you press the left, the machinegun begins speaking. But even on this modern equipment one must train much for accurate fire. It is not enough to get the 'enemy' in the crosshairs. One has to take account of the wind, air temperature and distance, and consider the speed of the target and your own vehicle and the kind of round. A tank has many enemies: combat helicopters, recoilless guns, ATGM's, mines... But we also are ready not only to defend ourselves, but also to neutralize the attacker. We are helped in this also by the subunits included in the tank troops: motorized rifle, artillery, air defense, engineer, signal and others."

Tank commander Aleksandr Zaytsev slaps his palm against the dusty armor as if thanking the vehicle for good service.

"Powerful equipment," says the guards sergeant. "It is not simple for an 18-year-old lad to master it at once. Before service I worked as an assistant saw frame operator in the Velizh timber management of Smolensk Oblast. I arrived in the tank troops and sat down at the desk and textbooks. In mastering the modern vehicle in order to take genuine and expert advantage of its tactical capabilities, you encounter an entire set of mechanisms and engines, optical devices, infrared equipment, radio communications, weapons and ammunition. And you also need instantaneous reaction, sharpness, strength and endurance. It is no accident that after the Army a majority of tankmen work excellently in the national economy as mechanics, drivers and tractor operators. For example, I no longer think of my life without equipment, with which I fell in love here in the Army. I'll serve my time and go study to be an aviation engineer. I've driven over the land, now I want to fly."

Zaytsev is a celebrity in the regiment. An outstanding soldier, he was awarded the Komsomol CC Honor Scroll. An engraved watch from the CIC of the Ground Forces gleams on his wrist. Aleksandr was given the honor of representing division Komsomol members at the 19th Komsomol Congress.

"I made many new friends there: HSU Capt Kozlov, artist Valeriy Zolotukhin, and five USSR pilot-cosmonauts... Trips to the Motor Vehicle Plant imeni Leninist Komsomol, to Star City and to the museums of Moscow are unforgettable. I even had to give an interview to correspondents of youth newspapers from socialist countries."

That evening I went around the division area with the combat vehicle's crew. The lads took me to the officers' club, where a tank with the side number 46 was set up on a pedestal as a symbol of glory. This is the vehicle of HSU scout Gennadiy Vinogradov. The story of the tank on the pedestal is passed from mouth to mouth like a legend. In a dramatic fight when the colors were threatened Lt Vinogradov fought his way in his "34" to the burning headquarters building and carried from the fire the colors and the seriously wounded brigade commander Col Likhachev. For two days the courageous crew fought its way out of fascist encirclement, destroying the enemy by fire and treads.

"Our guards division," says Ivan Petik, "indoctrinates soldiers on the exploits of countrymen. Two Heroes of the Soviet Union also are listed perpetually on our subunit's rolls. Jr Lt Ivan Golub' did not cease fighting even when his tank caught fire. The crew went to ram an enemy gun in the flaming vehicle. The tankmen perished, but their death ensured success of the entire brigade's attack. During the liberation of Poland 19-year-old Jr Sgt V. Peshekhonov was operating as part of a tank-mounted force. He was first to discover a fascist earth-and-timber emplacement on the flank of the attacking subunit. When ammunition gave out Peshekhonov threw himself at the emplacement and covered the embrasure with his chest. To this day his name is a symbol of valor for us. By our daily soldier's work and zealous service we strengthen the traditions which originated in difficult fighting in the war years. In his speech at a conference of military leaders in the Kremlin Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev gave high praise to our Armed Forces and expressed firm confidence in their readiness to defend their socialist Motherland. We are proud of the fact that there is also a bit of our military labor in the overall contribution to the defensive might of the Land of Soviets."

Ivan Petik soon will return home to the Transcarpathian village of Uzhok. He is awaited by his father and mother, kolkhoz members. He is also awaited by his girlfriend Margita, whose house is the neighboring one. But they will see Ivan sooner, as part of the best crews of the Kantemirovka Guards Division which will pass over Red Square in Moscow in a ceremonial march on 7 November.

Biographic Sketches of Naval Infantrymen

Moscow KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 7 Nov 82 p 4

[Article by special correspondents A. Murtazayev and M. Serdyukov: "We Introduce Participants of Today's Military Parade in Moscow: On the Black Sea, in a Blizzard..."]

[Text] A half-hour of personal time still remained. Gena Bublikov was sitting writing a letter. He had not written for a long while, and everyone knows that they are awaiting one at home. "You can congratulate me," he announced in the first hasty lines of his message to his near and dear ones. "I now command a tank. And this is no joke, I tell you..." He did not have time to place a period. The evening still of the barracks was torn by the long drawn-out, heartrending signal--Assembly! In an instant the formation froze, standing at attention in front of an anxious commander.

"It's this way," he said. "Children are lost in the mountains--14 persons. The scheduled time has elapsed and they haven't returned to the tourist base."

The commander looked out the window. A raving wind roamed over the parade field, sweeping armfuls of biting snow. You didn't envy the sentries in such weather.

"We need volunteers," said the commander. "Those who are in poor physical condition won't go with me."

But what naval infantryman considers himself a weakling? Volunteers strode forward--the entire formation stepped out. The commander, Viktor Polosin, a delegate to the 26th CPSU Congress, smiled. He had no doubt about his good lads. But he couldn't send everyone on the search. Someone would have to be offended, left in the warm barracks alone with the television set and the forthcoming retreat.

Three groups of 27 persons dressed as warmly as possible, got into a powerful "Ural" and disappeared into the malicious maelstrom of the night.

It was a decent distance to the tourist base, with the road heading into the mountains. You wouldn't travel fast along it even in good weather, but now when it was slippery as a skating rink, when you couldn't see your comrade two paces away and when there were snowdrifts up to your waist on the turns... But the vehicle did not let them down or, rather, the driver did not--they made their way to the place by midnight.

A headquarters already was functioning here and already had done the first and most important thing: It appealed to the Navy for help, and the Navy did not let it down. It sent the lads they needed--the naval infantry! This is a subject for later...

There was no time to drink tea even to warm oneself up. It was decided to act immediately. But where should they go? They should wait for dawn... "No," decided the commander. "If we wait for dawn, how about those in the mountains?" Polosin designated the first route--a check of the hunting cottage and the shelter. Perhaps the boys reached it and now are waiting out the blizzard. It was an ideal variant for them, although even after the blizzard it would of course be difficult for the children, dressed in athletic clothing and in sneakers with thin socks, to make their way out of the cottage and reach the tourist base over the gigantic snowdrifts. The commander shook the hand of Sr Lt Gennadiy Meleshkevich, and the first group disappeared in the night. According to the map it was 6 km to the shelter.

The mountains did not surrender without a fight. Jr Sgt Gennadiy Bublikov was in the first group. He forced his way through thorny bushes and thought what a stupid kid he had been when he had cursed like a bargeman at the petty officer who forced them, the new recruits, to run 10 km crosscountry races with complete gear. He would bite his lips until they hurt, but he did not give in to fatigue. It did not happen at once, but he learned to run those

crosscountry races, do 50 pull-ups on the horizontal bar, swim as well as a porpoise, and pass through fire without a single hair singed. The naval infantryman learned a great deal, and now the knowledge had come in handy. He would be able to make his way now to help the young kids in distress by the shortest path without any trails, up to his waist in snowdrifts, using an axe to cut a path in the brushy undergrowth for himself and his comrades. Gena could, and his comrades could, for they were naval infantrymen!

The blizzard had no plans to abate and complicated matters greatly. A guide went with them, an instructor in tourism who had crawled back and forth over these spots and, as it seemed to him earlier, knew these places down to the smallest bush. But after about 20 minutes along the route the lad lost all reference points he knew. They had to return, losing the elevation they had conquered with such difficulty. And then came a new assault.

They reported their failure to the commander by radio. Sgt Sasha Dogarev was carrying the radio. "Let me help you," Bublikov said to Sasha. Everyone except the radio operator was traveling light.

But Sasha was concerned about something else. The snow was sifting down like fine sand, filling all chinks in the gear. The radio began to malfunction. The snow was only half of it. The freezing temperature had gotten to the storage batteries, and this was very bad. Being left without communications in such a maelstrom meant getting themselves into a situation of distress. The headquarters would sound the alarm and would be rescuing more than just the schoolchildren...

And Dogarev found a solution. He flung open his jacket, removed the storage batteries and put them under his knitted shirt. And so he would warm the "communications" with his own body all this long night. He would speak with headquarters and again the batteries would go inside his shirt.

In the fifth hour of the morning they moved onto the hill where the hunting cottage was to be, but the snowy shroud did not hasten the dawn. The lads could not make each other out within two paces. It was not hard for the group to get lost in such milk. "Follow in each other's footsteps," ordered the senior lieutenant. He looked with disapproval at the guide, but the latter could do nothing. It was as if the cottage had been buried in snow. It was supposed to be here, but wasn't. Later they would learn that they had passed some ten meters from it. They passed and had not noticed it.

Gena Bublikov recalled how friends had written in letters from home: You're serving in the south. You're lucky. You're probably swimming every day in the Black Sea. A tourist resort, and not service!

The places really were touristy, but service is service and Gena swims in the sea most often in a tank. It has to be said that this is no simple swim. A slight mistake in calculations and before you could blink an eye you'd plunge beneath the water. That's the kind of tourist resort it is...

But winter in these places really is "unreal." There are rains instead of snow, but there are exceptions.

"Fine," thought Gennadiy. "We'll find the boys, return to the barracks and I'll write them this about my tourist resort!"

Toward morning headquarters learned that it was not only the schoolchildren who had gotten lost in the mountains. Student tourists also had disappeared. Some of those resting here had gone into the forest with a backpack the day before and had not turned up yet.

A second and third group immediately went in search of the people. It began getting light.

There were 13 schoolchildren, and the fourteenth was the Young Pioneer leader. In the final days of vacation the kids decided to take an excursion for one day. They took a simple route. The weather was fine: warm and sunny. Therefore everyone was dressed lightly: woolen athletic costumes, with some having light jackets. Sports shoes and sneakers. There was enough food for one halt in the forest...

The weather became worse after dinner. The sky grew sullen and a wind rushed into the mountains from the sea. They had to hurry, but the stormclouds outstripped the kids. It grew sharply cold and suddenly from the sky spattered not a playful spring shower, but real snow which began falling heavily. Many of the kids--all of them were local kids--had never seen such snow in their lives.

They were lucky--a hunting hut was nearby. There they took shelter. The bad weather dragged out, and they decided to spend the night here.

They were awakened in the morning by hunger. They had to descend the mountain somehow. Although the blizzard had not abated, it also was unbearable to wait for good weather in the hut. They decided to go down on their own.

It was already daylight when they were met. Something bright flashed ahead and disappeared. Gena decided that he was imagining things. But then they saw shadows. The Young Pioneer leader's jacket stood out. The infantrymen rushed toward her. The children were reeling from the cold and hunger. Many already had cast aside their backpacks long ago. The kids had strayed from the road. A count was made: 13 persons. Someone had fallen behind. It turned out to be a young girl. The infantrymen had to separate. Gena and his friends rushed to search.

They found her. She had dropped off to sleep in the snow. Had they been a bit later... The girl was carried to the hut and they began to warm her.

The infantrymen ripped off their jackets and gave them to the children. There was not enough clothing. Then they picked up the ones who were very weak and, straining to the utmost, they began the descent.

The second and third groups were looking for the missing tourists. There were endless ascents and descents--they were combing the entire region. They had to hurry as the freezing temperature was dropping even more...

The radio gave out. What should they do? Jr Sgt Ivan Bolgak and Sgt Serazhutin Alibutayev received an order to return to headquarters and summon help.

The most important thing was to orient themselves. This was difficult to do on very unfamiliar terrain. They had a map, but how could the map help in such a blizzard? They were lucky: The pale rays of the sun penetrated the solid gray shroud for an instant. They went on after orienting themselves.

The path was difficult. Their jackets iced up and their tarpaulin boots became thoroughly soaked. Bolgak had a tormenting desire for water, but there was no more. There seemed to be a sea of snow around him. Eat it! There was no other way. He gulped down several handfuls of freezing snow. An hour later Bolgak began feeling poorly. His temperature shot up and he had the chills.

Serazhutin was a real friend. He removed his jacket and wrapped up his comrade. Ivan could go on no longer--his head swam and he lost consciousness. Then Serazhutin took his friend on his shoulders. Now it is difficult to remember how far they went. He had no more strength, but he also had no thought of leaving his comrade. They dragged themselves along that way, stumbling and falling but not giving up. That is how their friends found them.

The blizzard didn't let up for 24 hours. The naval infantrymen spent 24 hours on their feet.

They led almost 90 persons from the snowy imprisonment.

Several days later, after sleeping it off properly, Gennadiy Bublikov again took up the letter he had set aside. He thought a long while about something good he could write. He regretted that he was not a writer. He sighed and composed the customary lines, but ones so much desired by parents: "Everything's fine. Service is normal. If I'm lucky I'll take part in the parade on Red Square, and then look closely at the television set..."

He was lucky. For excellent service to the Motherland he and his comrades today will flash in parade step in front of the Kremlin walls. A deserved honor.

Draftee Send-off

Moscow KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 17 Nov 82 p 2

[Article by M. Dmukhovskiy, Ruza, Moscow Oblast: "Yes Sir, Fall In!: Conditioning School"]

[Text] The school will be taken by 18-year-old lads who are trying on Army greatcoats today.

The 18-year-old biography seemingly is left behind the threshold of the military commissariat. Here they are as timid and uncertain as first-year pupils.

A youngish lieutenant strides in front of the uneven rank of draftees, his dazzling boots squeaking slightly. He is wearing a smart-looking service cap, a rather new waist belt and a duty officer's armband.

"From this moment," says the lieutenant, "your term of service begins. We looked through your personal files and read your appraisals. Very good lads: All are production leaders, activists, athletes. But I must caution you: Forget the civil liberties at once."

The lieutenant looked over everyone severely and gave the first order in their Army careers:

"And now one by one from the right, get a haircut!"

It is interesting to know what would have happened had this little lieutenant tried to speak with them, essentially persons of the same age, in such a paternal voice yesterday. But today they sighed obediently and headed for the barber one by one from the right. Never mind that they were dressed in civilian trousers and shirts. They already were soldiers.

Of course, this title largely is conditional. To become a real soldier one still has to "fly through" more than one forced march, throw a great deal of dirt with the entrenching tool and learn the requirements of regulations and manuals.

It goes without saying that all this is uncustomary. It seemed they already had worked and established themselves in collectives by labor, and then they had to begin everything all over again.

Take Viktor Frolov. An excellent tractor operator, he is known and respected by many in the rayon. He was assigned to the tankmen, and he shook hands with the entire commission out of joy. He would ride around on the K-700 and imagine himself on a tank. But hardly did he collect himself when he immediately grew timid. How would he drive such a bulky and cumbersome thing? Would he manage?

But I believe it will be a bit easier for him in training, for the tank goes over the ground like a tractor and Frolov has an age-old pact with the mother earth. He cultivated grain on it, harvested, beautified it and now he would defend it.

Viktor Frolov would serve his time and would grow grain again.

But Oleg Sorochonkov was assigned to the missile troops. Consider it the beginning of a new life. This was the opinion of Oleg himself. And that's what he says:

"I am a metal worker of a high category and will go into the first class of missile school. The fact is I know nothing at all about them. It's true I have some idea how they fly, but I can't at all understand how one manages to send it exactly on target."

The lads with Army haircuts laugh, but they know the young man is swaggering. They don't take you so simply into the missile troops. Oleg apparently is strong in precise sciences and understands equipment. And you just have to look to see that his hands are accustomed to labor, even without reading the papers.

I spent a whole day with them and became acquainted with many. Once in my childhood it seemed that those going into the Army were such big people. But now I look into these boyish faces and cannot help thinking that they are the ones who will defend our soil, our mothers and our children.

...Swept by an icy wind, the bus put its smoky tail beneath itself. The powdered windows were gay with the pock-marks of thawed patches from the noses pressed against them. The boys were saying farewell to their youth.

Mothers and loved ones remained in the deserted square. The loved ones swore to wait as befitting them. And the mothers simply cried. No vows are needed from them.

And when did they mature, our little boys?

Airborne Soldier

Moscow KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 17 Nov 82 p 2

[Article by V. Ustyuzhanin: "Yes Sir, Fall In!: Where We Were..."]

[Text] A few instants from the life of Sr Sgt Vasilii Lyashchuk.

Did Vasilii dream of becoming an airborne soldier? And how! For two older brothers--Sergey and Aleksandr--also served in the winged infantry. And they would lecture him in letters: "They'll ask you in the military commissariat where you want to serve. Ask for the airborne troops. You won't regret it."

But Vasilii didn't have to ask. Looking at the lad's strong, firm build, the good-natured military commissar on the commission, with streaks of gray at his temples, merely asked:

"Do you engage in sports, Vasilii Leonidovich?"

"Track and field, Comrade Lieutenant Colonel. I have a first category in running."

"It will come in handy. We're matching you up with the airborne troops, brother. Running is oh so necessary there."

Then his term of service already was running out. It was a matter of days before his return home. Letters already had been sent: "Hello, dear ones! Expect me. I'll be there soon." His dress uniform had been ironed. The last page had been made out in his soldier's album...

The soldier's album. Every photograph here is an instant of Army life, documentary proof of how they serve and what they went through. No, the lads in their battery are not experts in photography. Vasiliy has one photo that is too light, another that is overexposed, and a third that lacks definition. But is this the important thing? The important thing is the content. There are photos from exercises, marches, training classes, firings and short halts... There will be something to show relatives and friends. He served worthily and also must tell about this with dignity.

Here's the photo from the first crosscountry race. They ran these unbearably long ten "K.M.'s" on a rainy, snowy day with full field gear--submachinegun and ground sheet on their backs. He was ahead of everyone from the first to the last meter (his athletic conditioning did tell). Capt Bibikov, the battalion commander, who was not generous with praise or a smile, later said in front of formation: "You run well, Pvt Lyashchuk. Good lad. I'm giving you leave out of order."

And this probably is the most memorable photograph. From the oath ceremony. His parents had come to the unit. The regimental commander at that time had a request for his mother: "Yevgeniya Stepanovna, you have three sons in the Army, say a word in parting to the lads." And the simple country woman, who was not a master of the spoken word, expressed herself in such a way that it cost him much effort to keep back the tears that welled up.

Here is one of the few pictures made by a professional's hand. With the beret shoved a bit to one side, the airborne soldier's undershirt showing dashingly out from under the unbuttoned collar of the tunic, and a confident, sprightly gaze boring through the camera lens--Vasiliy is a past master of posing. This photograph also hangs in the "Unit's Best People" display. It was placed there after winter firings. The team fired two rounds and both were exactly on target. Since then no one had succeeded in taking from them the title of "best gun team."

...Lyashchuk couldn't sleep these last nights.

A very little time would pass and Vasiliy no longer would be remembering his home, but the barracks, the narrow military cot and real friends--Novgorodite Kolya Maksimov, Krasnoyarsk resident Sasha Syrtsov, the twin brothers Viktor and Sergey Bulavintsev from Moscow, Sergey Vinogradov from Kalinin, countryman Tolya Kononets, and all the lads from his outstanding 4th Battery with whom he had shared the hardships and celebrations of Army duty. And in leafing through the pages of the Army album they too probably would recall more than once their Komsomol secretary and deputy platoon commander, the cheerful light-haired lad from Belorussia.

Soldier's Allegiance

Moscow KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 17 Nov 82 p 2

[Letter by Gds Sr Lt A. Chumakov, Military Unit "X": "Take as an Example: About the Soldier's Family"]

[Text] I would like to tell about a young soldier, Yuriy Zagidulin. He came into our unit from Khar'kov. He served a very short while, then ended up in the hospital and had to have a serious operation. They wanted to send him home, but Yuriy beseeched the physicians to leave him in the unit. He is convinced that every young man is obligated to perform his military duty fully and nothing must hinder this.

Yuriy serves the Motherland with faith and truth. He works a great deal on himself and always tries to be first in everything. He recently was awarded an honor scroll for successes in military service. The parents of Yuriy Zagidulin can be proud of their son, a son of the Soviet land.

Mother's Send-Off

Moscow KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 17 Nov 82 p 2

[Letter by N. Chalapova, city hospital operating room nurse, Pervomaysk, Voroshilovgrad Oblast: "A Mother's Behest: Serve Excellently, Son"]

[Text] It seemed it would be a long while until our son became an adult. But then the time came and Oleg went into the Army.

It is rather uncomfortable to say flattering words about my son, but who knows him better than a mother? I think his father and I brought up a good person, unspoiled and accustomed to work. Before the Army he managed to work two years as a metal craftsman at a plant and he studied in the evening in a tekhnikum.

A day before his send-off his father brought him to his mine. They descended into the galleries and went to the wall where coal was mined. Our son saw how his parents made a living and said: "After the Army I'll come to your mine and we'll work together."

We took days seeing Oleg off for service. I looked at him and wanted to say something to him in parting, but he was calm and smiling, as if to say: "Don't worry, Mama, everything will be all right." Even earlier he repeatedly said: "What is a man without the Army? I'll go through this school and then I'll arrange my personal life."

His father and I believe that Oleg will be a good soldier because he prepared himself in earnest for service. He learned to be a driver in the DOSAAF school.

My mother's behest to my son is to be courageous, safeguard the homeland and serve honestly. We await good news from you, soldier!

Paratrooper's Service

Moscow KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 17 Nov 82 p 2

[Article by A. Pozdnyakov: "Ready for Military Routine"]

[Text] It is generally known that parachutists can receive all kinds of surprises. That is why instructors prepare them so carefully for the first jump. They also teach them how to act in special cases, such as in falling into a forest, on the water, on a highway with traffic, on high-voltage lines, on rooftops and on the walls of houses. Even so, there are enough surprises.

...The ground was approaching. Even the dandelions in the meadow had become visible. Then Zhenya Tataurov realized with grief that he could not avoid his fate.

"Hey! Where are you flying?!" shouted a herdsman below him at the top of his lungs, brandishing his whip.

"Move the herd!!!"

Zhen'ka was still clutching at the air, but still it was necessary to land or, more correctly, hit the cattle. But the cattle were quick-witted. They dispersed instantaneously.

After the jumps the lads were sitting on the edge of the airfield resting. Zhenya Tataurov was lying on the grass and sullenly chewing on a straw.

But Zhenya was frowning for nothing. He had performed the mission assigned the cadets at the first jump: to jump and land normally. Even despite the unusual conditions. He had done everything precisely: He hadn't dawled at the exit, he counted the prescribed "one hundred twenty-one, one hundred twenty-two, one hundred twenty-three," jerked the ring and, after inspecting the canopy, didn't forget to pull out the "red line" so that the emergency chute didn't open automatically.

That was the first jump of Yevgeniy Tataurov, a tailor from the Moscow Start Association. He was helped to become a parachutist by the Moscow City DOSAAF Air Club.

He of course will serve in the airborne troops.

Zhenya knows that an airborne soldier is not simply a parachutist, but a military man. The earth rather often greets him not with a band, but with fire.

"But I have conditioning," smiles Tataurov, "for I've already landed once in the 'enemy' positions. On bayonets."

Komsomol Construction Sites

Moscow KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 17 Nov 82 p 2

[Interview with Nikolay Nikolayevich Moskvina, chief of a Komsomol CC public draft sector, by S. Gabrielyan, student of MGU (Moscow State University) journalism faculty: "Interview at Soldiers' Request: Vital Work Calls"]

[Text] Dear KOMSOMOLKA!

This is a letter from regular readers, first-term servicemen. We soon will be going into the reserve but we became very good friends in the Army and decided not to part. We would like to go to a Komsomol construction site but don't know how to do this.

We very much request, KOMSOMOLKA, that you write about all-union key construction sites. We are especially interested in what specialties are most needed (one of us is a gas-electric welder and the other a mining electrician) and whether or not there are privileges for servicemen released to the reserve.

Jr Sgt S. Gayday and Jr Sgt S. Kurochkin,
Moscow Military District

These days the mail brings many such letters to the department of military-patriotic indoctrination of the youth. We asked N. N. Moskvina, chief of the Komsomol CC sector of public draft, to answer the soldiers' questions.

[Question] Nikolay Nikolayevich, what can you say in response to this and many other similar letters?

[Answer] There are a total of 135 key Komsomol construction sites in the country at which more than 1.5 million Komsomol members are working. Each year more than 100,000 young boys and girls set off for there from a public levy, including personnel released to the reserve. Soldiers for whom the time has come to go into the reserve and who wish to travel to a key construction site should go to their unit's Komsomol committee. I remind them that the question of issuing a pass is decided at a Komsomol meeting.

[Question] If, for example, I dreamed of working in the Far North since childhood but there are only passes to the non-Chernozem area?

[Answer] Each person has the right to travel to any construction site. In this case he must go to the headquarters or the personnel department of the key construction site. After receiving an invitation to work the volunteer can go to the unit Komsomol committee with a request to issue a pass. The exact postal address can be learned in the Komsomol CC's of union republics, in the Komsomol kraykoms and obkoms, and in the political department.

[Question] It is fine when a lad has a construction specialty, but if not?

[Answer] Then he undergoes training in training course combines. It is possible to obtain a construction specialty here in a short period of time. Good conditions for study, work and rest are created here for the young people and they quickly become part of a collective. For example, Ivan Likhodeyev's team of tunnelers from the SMU-5 [construction and installation administration-5] of the Moscow Metrostroy [Administration for Construction of the Moscow Subway] consists fully of former servicemen who came here at various times on Komsomol passes. Ivan himself came to Metrostroy in 1973 after being released to the reserve, quickly acquired the profession of tunneler and soon took over the brigade, which today is one of the best. They have fulfilled the plan for 2½ years of the Five-Year Plan by the Komsomol's birthday--29 October.

[Question] What are the conditions of everyday life for those arriving at the key construction sites and how is the housing question resolved?

[Answer] As a rule, major housing construction is conducted in parallel with the construction of industrial enterprises and main rail lines and with the development of petroleum and natural gas fields. In recent years the cities of Surgut, Nizhnevartovsk, Urengoy, Nadym and Novyy Urengoy have risen on the soil of Tyumen' Oblast. Their construction also is an all-union key construction site.

The discovery of petroleum fields gave a new life to ancient Surgut, which before the geologists' arrival was an ordinary settlement, of which there are many in the North around the Ob' River. Three cultural clubs already have been built here for the oil workers, builders and drillers, where more than 30 circles of amateur activities, superb multistory dormitories, schools for the working youth, a petroleum tekhnikum, a branch of the Tyumen' Industrial Institute, a modern stadium, and cozy coffeehouses and dining halls already are in operation.

But of course there are and will be difficulties, for often it is necessary to begin literally with nothing, with the first peg.

[Question] Do servicemen who have come to the construction site on Komsomol passes have any privileges?

[Answer] Without question. Those who travel to the key construction sites under a public levy are paid for the travel and per diem while en route, and a one-time allowance is paid. Privileges have been established for young volunteers on entering educational institutions, and consultation points have been set up for correspondence-course students directly at the construction sites. A regular leave can be given to servicemen who have arrived at the construction site immediately after service at the expiration of three months of work in a construction organization as an advance on the leave for the first year of work.

[Question] And a final question. Where are strong soldier hands accustomed to work needed in particular?

[Answer] It is hard to say which of the all-union key Komsomol construction sites are most important. Probably all of them. The fact is that making any of the sites operational serves for the further development of a particular sector of the national economy. I will mention only some of them: the system of main natural gas lines from the north of Tyumen' Oblast to the central regions of the European part of the country and the natural gas export pipeline Urengoy-Pomary-Uzhgorod; the Balakovskaya, Kalininskaya and Smolenskaya atomic electric power stations; the Surgut-Urengoy-Nadym railroad line; the Krasnoyarsk Heavy Excavator Plant; the coal mines of the Karaganda and Kuznetsk basins; and sites in the city of Komsomol'sk-na-Amure. As you see, there are many addresses.

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ARMED FORCES

TABLE OF CONTENTS OF 'KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL' NO 15, AUG 1982

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 15, Aug 82 (signed to press 19 Jul 82) pp 1-2

[Full-text translated articles published in this JPRS report are indicated with an asterisk(*); excerpted translations--with a double asterisk (**)]

[Text] Contents	Page
Editorial - With All the Strength of Party Influence.....	3
An Historic Program for the Growth in the People's Well-Being - S. Il'in.....	8
THE USSR--60 YEARS OF AGE	
*The Friendship of Peoples--Source of the Soviet Armed Forces' Might - V. Samoylenko.....	15
Transformed Land.....	22
OUR CALENDAR	
**The Fatherland's Armored Shield (Materials for reports and talks on Tank Forces' Day).....	26
PROBLEMS IN TRAINING AND TROOP INDOCTRINATION	
*Be on Familiar Terms with the Mountains - V. Lokhov.....	31
PARTY LIFE: INITIATIVE, DEVOTION TO PRINCIPLE, RESPONSIBILITY	
**Check of Execution - V. Lomov.....	37
FOR YOU, YOUNG COMMUNISTS	
For Everything in the Answer - M. Radugin.....	44
HIGH QUALITY AND EFFECTIVENESS FOR IDEOLOGICAL WORK	
**Concreteness and Effectiveness for Oral Propaganda - I. Ovcharov.....	49
KOMSOMOL LIFE	
Youth--A Time for Daring - B. Utkin.....	55

FOR LEADERS OF POLITICAL-LESSON GROUPS

*Sacred Duty, Honorable Obligation - G. Petrenko..... 61

AMONG OUR FRIENDS

Laos: On the Path toward Socialism - A. Demin..... 68

CRITIQUE AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

*Constant Attention to Questions of Discipline (Survey of Journals) -
A. Solov'yev..... 74

IN THE DISTRICTS AND THE FLEETS

An Important Task for the Workers of Military Agricultural Enterprises--The
Word of the Builders of the Baykal-Amur Mainline Railroad--All Republics are
in our Crew Space--Among the Places of Combat Glory--Increase the Communists'
Initiative and Devotion to Principle--Training of Political Officers--For
High Quality of Combat Alert--Develop the Activity of the Workers and
Employees--Conference of Experts in Training--Leaflet on the Best Brigade... 78

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6367

CSO: 1801/332

ARMED FORCES

MULTINATIONAL CHARACTER OF SOVIET ARMED FORCES DISCUSSED

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 15, Aug 82 (signed to press 19 Jul 82) pp 15-21

[Article by Maj Gen V. Samoylenko, doctor of philosophical sciences, professor: "The Friendship of Peoples--Source of the Soviet Armed Forces' Might"]

[Text] The Soviet people and their servicemen are preparing to mark the 65th anniversary of the Great October and 60 years since the day of formation of the Soviet Union in a festive manner. "These were glorious although, at times, also very difficult decades," said Comrade L. I. Brezhnev in a speech at the 19th Congress of the Lenin Komsomol. "We went through burdens and privations, on the way learned overcoming mistakes and miscalculations, and attained successes which amazed the world. Our people gave 20 million lives in the battle with the fascist aggressor in order to defend what had been built and maintain the right to their ideals."

In the struggle for socialism and in the battles for its defense the great brotherhood of the people of labor was born and strengthened, and international relations which we rightly call the Leninist friendship of peoples which are unprecedented in history were formed. The economic, political, cultural, and military collaboration of the socialist nations was built and is being built on the basis of their common interests, voluntary agreement, mutual respect, confidence, and mutual assistance. The friendship of the Soviet peoples is the mighty motive force of a society which is moving toward communism.

In exerting a beneficial influence on all spheres of the life of our multinational state, the friendship of peoples also steps forth as an important factor in its defensive capability and as one of the sources of the Soviet Armed Forces' might. In turn, the Soviet Armed Forces are an acknowledged school of internationalism, a school for instilling senses of brotherhood, solidarity, and mutual respect of all the nations and nationalities of the country.

World history knows many examples of the creation of multinational armies of slave-owner, feudal, and capitalist states whose composition forcibly included troops of conquered countries and enslaved peoples. These armies often appeared to be an impressive force but, as a rule, collapsed quickly with the first serious failures. Their internal weakness was caused by class and national antagonisms and the unjust goals of the wars.

In their social nature and purpose, the Soviet Armed Forces are fundamentally opposite to the armies of the exploiter states. The international unity of our country's workers which was born in the crucible of revolutionary struggle was also embodied in their military organization. From the very beginning the Red Army of workers and peasants was organized as an army of the friendship and brotherhood of peoples and the defender of their freedom and independence.

V. I. Lenin considered the overcoming of national hostility and distrust to be the guarantee of victory over the enemies of Soviet power. In his parting words to the Red Army men who had set off for the front in August 1918, he said: "The alliance of revolutionaries of various nations is now being accomplished.... And I, comrades, am confident that if you unite all military forces into a mighty international Red Army and move these iron battalions against the exploiters, against the oppressors, and against the black hundreds of the entire world with the battle slogan: 'Death or victory!'--no force of the imperialists will stand up against us!" ("Polnoye sobraniye sochineniy" [Complete Works], Vol 37, p 26).

Ensuring the equality of rights of all peoples on the basis of Soviet power, the Communist Party strengthened the confidence in itself by previously oppressed nations and nationalities and was able to create a single, centralized, mass regular army. United by the community of the class interests of the personnel and national and international missions, by its victories over its enemies the Red Army showed convincingly that for a socialist military organization multinationality is not a vulnerable point but, on the contrary, one of the deep sources of strength.

Smashing the hordes of the White Guardist generals and foreign interventionists, the peoples of our country were united in a single allied socialist state. They united in order to build a new society more successfully and defend it more reliably. The possibilities for the further strengthening of the combat collaboration of the Soviet peoples were expanded with the creation of the USSR.

In a report at the 3d Congress of Soviets of the USSR, the People's Commissar for Military and Naval Affairs, M. V. Frunze, noted: "In military affairs, just as in our Soviet construction, we are required to implement and are implementing the principles of our national policy. We are building our army in such a way that each nationality of our Union does not feel offended or disregarded. On the other hand we should do this in such a way that the army is a single, strong whole which would be combat-ready in all its component parts and which would be a firm guarantee of the security of our Union. We are also conducting work in the army proceeding from these basic features" ("Izbrannyye proizvedeniya" [Selected Works], Voenizdat, 1977, p 361).

So that each nation and nationality could exercise its right and obligation to defend Soviet land with weapon in hand, national formations were created in the Red Army. Active indoctrinational work in the spirit of consolidating the ideas of the brotherhood and solidarity of the peoples of the Soviet Union was conducted in them as well as in units with a mixed national composition. The truly revolutionary socio-economic transformations which were accomplished in all the Soviet republics had a favorable influence on strengthening the combat capability of the Armed Forces.

We return mentally six decades back and recall the grave heritage which we received from the old world. Central Asia and Kazakhstan were at a level usual for colonial

countries. The lot of the overwhelming majority of their indigenous population was poverty, sickness, and illiteracy. Many regions of the Transcaucasus and even of Belorussia close to the center were distinguished by economic backwardness. This is why the course for accelerating the economic, cultural, and socio-political development of the national outlying districts became the core of the party's national policy.

The party's consistent work over many years and the tremendous and unselfish assistance to the peoples and nationalities which had been oppressed in the past on the part of the Russian and other peoples of the Soviet Union brought remarkable fruits. Already by the end of the 1930's the republics of Central Asia, the Transcaucasus, Kazakhstan, and Belorussia had marched far ahead in economic and cultural development.

The party's course for the equalizing of the levels of economic and cultural development of the USSR's peoples also had in mind the urgent requirements to strengthen the country's defensive capability. Already in the years of the first five-year plans a powerful military-economic potential had been created which is based on the raw-material and production resources of all the union republics. The formation of relatively independent industrial-energy complexes in the Volga region, in the Urals, in Siberia, Kazakhstan, Central Asia, and in other eastern regions permitted the development of defense branches in the deep rear.

The foresight of such a course was plainly shown by the Great Patriotic War. The attack of the fascist aggressor required the relocation of hundreds of enterprises in the east in the shortest times. Kazakhstan alone received and put into operation 150 big defense plants evacuated from zones near the front. At the same time, the construction of new enterprises was initiated. Thus, such industrial branches as aviation, armaments, and ammunition which were most important for the needs of the front were created in the Uzbek SSR. During the war years, Azerbaijan provided more than 70 percent of the union oil production. Kazakhstan became the main base for nonferrous metallurgy.

The labor heroism of all our country's peoples permitted liquidating the initial superiority of the fascist army in the number of tanks and airplanes in the third year of the war and, in the fourth, surpassing Germany considerably in their production. The Soviet Union gained the upper hand in the economic competition with the enemy for which the industry of almost all of Europe enslaved by fascism worked. And this predetermined the military defeat of the aggressor.

During the grim years of the Great Patriotic War the people-brothers stood as a single wall for the defense of their socialist motherland and displayed mass heroism and an inflexible will for victory. Despite the hopes of the fascist ringleaders, the mortal danger which hung over our country did not split the Soviet people but, on the contrary, united them even more closely into a single military camp. History knew of no examples where patriotism would assume such a general nature as was the case in our multinational state. Russians and Ukrainians, Belorussians and Kazakhs, and sons and daughters of the Baltic, the Caucasus, and Central Asia stood to the death shoulder to shoulder in the Brest Fortress, on the Moscow lines and in the trenches at Stalingrad, and on the "fiery" Kursk bulge, and they fought valiantly in the enemy's rear. "If we speak of the main hero of the Great Patriotic War,"

stressed Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, "then the entire harmonious family of the peoples who are inhabiting our country and are united by the indestructible bonds of brotherhood is this immortal hero."

The combat with the most dangerous enemy of mankind--Hitlerite fascism--demonstrated graphically that the Soviet peoples can defend their freedom and independence and their revolutionary achievements in an alliance and by common efforts. Utterly defeating the aggressor's troops, the Soviet Armed Forces accomplished the greatest international exploit: they saved the peoples of Europe from enslavement and destruction. They appeared before the entire world as an army of the friendship of peoples, a liberation army.

The Soviet constitution includes the defense of the socialist fatherland among the most important functions of the state and proclaims it to be a matter for the entire people. Service in the Armed Forces is a sacred constitutional duty and an honorable obligation for each Soviet citizen regardless of his social status and national affiliation.

The reliability of the defense of the socialist fatherland is determined to a tremendous degree by the level of the Armed Forces' combat potential in which their technical equipping, professional state of training, and the morale of the men are merged into one. In stressing the significance of the troops' material support and training, V. I. Lenin pointed out: "The very best army and people most devoted to the cause of the revolution will be exterminated immediately by the enemy if they are not armed, supplied with rations, and trained to a sufficient degree" ("Polnoye sobraniye sochineniy," Vol 35, p 408).

In implementing the Lenin behests and considering the specific military-political situation in the world arena, the Communist Party and the entire Soviet people were tirelessly concerned and are concerned that our Armed Forces develop at a level with scientific-technical progress and master the most improved weapons.

Under contemporary conditions, when imperialism's aggressive preparations sharply intensified and the leaders of the United States are counting on attaining military and technical superiority over the USSR, we are forced to maintain the technical equipping of the Armed Forces at the proper level. Our highly developed, multi-branch industry is capable of putting out the most complex production.

The 60 years of experience of the USSR is graphic confirmation of the Lenin ideas on the advantages which the national economy of a big multinational state provides in comparison with a scattered economy. The economy of our country is not the sum of the economies of the union republics but an interconnected national-economic complex which is developing in accordance with a single plan in the interests of all the peoples. The blending of the capabilities and resources of the republics accelerates the development of each of them--both the smallest and the biggest--and increases its contribution to the national wealth of the country and to the cause of defending the fatherland. Country-wide administration and planning ensure freedom of economic maneuver and permit deepening the specialization and cooperation of the economies of the union republics, approaching the distribution of productive forces more efficiently, and strengthening the military-economic potential of the country with consideration of the nature and possible after-effects of nuclear missile war being prepared by imperialism.

The Soviet Union possesses a powerful scientific potential which has been placed at the service of socio-economic and cultural progress of our peoples as well as the cause of defense. Now, each union republic has a developed network of scientific research institutions for various branches of knowledge and the appropriate national cadres. During the last 15 years alone, the number of scientific personnel for the country as a whole doubled, this growth being even more significant in a number of republics.

The high availability of qualified personnel and the effectiveness of the studies being conducted provide republic scientific institutions with the capability to participate actively in the accomplishment of tasks of country-wide importance. For example, scientists of the Academy of Sciences of the Kazakh SSR participated in the study of 72 problems of country-wide significance along the line of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and 22 subjects coordinated by the USSR State Committee on Science and Technology in the 10th Five-Year Plan.

The unity, friendship, and fraternal collaboration of our peoples are also furthering the improvement of such components of the Armed Forces' combat potential as the military skill and morale of their personnel. Sending their sons to the ranks of the Armed Forces, the workers of all the republics bid them to accomplish their honorable military duty conscientiously. Whatever the corner of our immense motherland in which our servicemen may be located, they constantly feel the attention and concern on the part of republic and local party and soviet organs. They are often visited by the first secretaries of Central Committees of the Communist Parties and other leaders of the union republics and by representatives of party and soviet organs of oblasts and rayons, industrial enterprises, kolkhozes, and sovkhozes. They become acquainted with the life and combat training of the personnel, attend exercises and lessons, give reports, and answer questions which interest the soldiers and officers.

In responding to the concern of the party and the people, the men of all nationalities are performing their duty with honor. Continuing the relay race of our revolutionary and combat traditions, they are persistently mastering contemporary weapons and equipment and increasing their ideological tempering. "The best qualities of the people are embodied in the Soviet servicemen," stresses the Soviet Minister of Defense, Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov. "They are its intellect and talent, patriotism and conscientiousness, industriousness and selflessness. They are boundlessly devoted to the cause of October, are capable of defending their motherland reliably, and are ready for an exploit in the name of its freedom and independence."

Exercises and maneuvers are a comprehensive check of the combat readiness of the troops and naval forces and of the political maturity and professional skill of the Soviet servicemen. Thus, difficult tasks in the combat coordination of troops and naval forces and raising the level of field, air, and sea training of the personnel were worked out on the "Zapad [West]-81" exercises, the conclusions of Soviet military science were defined more precisely, and so forth. At the same time, the exercises took the form of a brilliant demonstration of the unity of the defenders of the motherland with our multinational people and of their solidarity around the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet government.

The strenuous life of army and navy service, the multinational composition of the military collectives, the study and employment of complex equipment and weapons, and the overcoming of moral-psychological and physical loads which are characteristic of contemporary battle objectively further the generation of firm discipline, collectivism, combat solidarity, mutual assistance, and international brotherhood in the men. An important role in the molding of these qualities belongs to purposeful training, political-indoctrinational, and organizational work of commanders, political organs, and party and Komsomol organizations.

The continuing drawing together of all classes and social groups of Soviet society and the further strengthening of the fraternal friendship of our country's peoples are reflected beneficially in the political-moral condition of the Armed Forces personnel and in the nature of mutual relations in the military collectives.

The social and international unity of the motherland's defenders is strong today as never before. A sense of national pride which is tremendous, capacious, and rich in its content is inherent in the Soviet servicemen of various nationalities. It is the sense of a citizen of the first multinational socialist state in the world, a sense of the indissoluble connection with its great people--the builder of communism, and a sense of personal responsibility for the defense of the socialist fatherland. This sense unites the men and stimulates them to cherish the honor and dignity of the motherland's armed defender in a sacred manner and to accomplish the missions facing the Armed Forces irreproachably.

The sons and grandsons of the participants in the Great Patriotic War are now in the combat formation of the Armed Forces. Loyal to the heroic traditions of our army and our people, they are performing service zealously and persistently mastering contemporary weapons and the science to defeat any enemy. Soviet servicemen are distinguished by a deep conviction in the righteousness of the cause entrusted to them, whole-hearted loyalty to their patriotic and international duty and, in the words of V. I. Lenin, a readiness "to sacrifice their lives for the good of their brothers..." ("Polnoye sobraniye sochineniy," Vol 41, p 121). The socialist economic and socio-political system, Marxist-Leninist ideology, and the friendship of the Soviet peoples are the sources for the molding of lofty moral-political and psychological qualities in the personnel.

From wherever a youth may arrive in the Armed Forces and whatever the nationality to which he belongs, he becomes a member of the military family with equal rights. This equality of rights is guaranteed by the laws and military regulations and is ensured by the entire tenor of Armed Forces life.

Proletarian, socialist internationalism, as one of the basic principles in the organizational development of the Armed Forces, is manifested in the manning, training, and indoctrination of the military personnel. Our officer corps is made up of the best sons of the Soviet people. Access to the military schools and academies is open to representatives of all nations and nationalities of the USSR. For example, in the Tashkent Higher Combined-Arms Command School imeni V.I. Lenin youths of 26 nationalities are being trained to become officers. The chief criterion which determines the service growth of a commander, political officer, or engineer consists of his high political, professional, and moral qualities. Boundless devotion to the Communist Party and the socialist motherland, consistent internationalism, Marxist-Leninist ideological tempering, organization, discipline, profound knowledge of the

theory and practice of military affairs, firm skills in controlling the troops, the ability to indoctrinate and train subordinates--this is what distinguishes our multinational military cadres now.

As Soviet society advances toward communism, national relations are also developing. The unity of nations and nationalities is becoming even closer and the process of their drawing together is increasing. As stressed in the decree of the CPSU Central Committee, "On the 60th anniversary of the formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics," under the conditions of developed socialism the role of leading, directing, and organizing activity of the party in the development of the nations and nationalities of the USSR and in strengthening their fraternal union is steadily growing. Correct party leadership of the sphere of national relations which is based on Marxist-Leninist principles is a necessary condition for the progress of a multinational socialist society and the further strengthening of our multinational Armed Forces.

The thorough consideration of the interests and requirements of each nation and nationality, their organic combination with the interests of the Soviet people as a whole, and the unification of the workers' efforts for the accomplishment of urgent tasks of a developed society are at the center of attention of the CPSU. The party keenly sees that new processes and problems in the sphere of national relations receive timely and complete reflection in the activity of party and state organs and public organizations.

The life of the Soviet Armed Forces reflects the peculiarities of the development of a large multinational state like ours. Thus, a trend toward the further internationalization of military collectives can currently be observed. This is associated with the general socio-economic and cultural progress of all the Soviet republics, which enables them to send well-trained recruits into the army and navy. There is a significant contingent of draftees from Central Asia and a number of regions of the Caucasus where population growth is particularly rapid and attentive consideration of the demographic situation and strict observance of the scientific principles of leadership, the Leninist work style, and the Leninist personnel policy enable commanders and political organizers and party and Komsomol organizations to resolve more successfully the tasks of creating cohesive multinational military collectives and educating the personnel in the spirit of military comradeship and fraternal friendship and respect for every serviceman's national feelings and dignity.

As is known, in our country military training and education are conducted in Russian, which has become firmly established as the language of inter-nation intercourse in the country. With the introduction of the system of complete secondary education for young people in all republics, there has been a perceptible fall in the number of draftees with poor knowledge of oral and written Russian. But certain shortcomings are still making themselves felt in this respect. People are acting correctly in those units and subunits where they take care to help young servicemen of non-Russian nationality to overcome the "language barrier" more rapidly, join more actively in the collective's life and study, and operate modern combat hardware more successfully.

Each of our servicemen feels himself to be a representative of the Soviet people as a new historical community of people. This community is based on the indivisibility of the historical destinies of the USSR's peoples, the profound objective changes of a

material and spiritual order, and the indestructible alliance of the working class, peasantry, and intelligentsia. The community is the result of the growing internationalization of economic life and all public life and the development in our country of socialist nations, among which relations of genuine equality, fraternal mutual assistance and cooperation, respect, and mutual trust have grown up.

The ideology of nationalism and its social roots have been eliminated from our society's life forever. But some instances of the manifestation of nationalism, alien to the nature of socialism, are still met with from time to time. Our enemies latch on to these and try to inflate them. In order to discredit the CPSU's Leninist national policy and shatter the friendship between our country's peoples, imperialist powers set up mighty ideological centers and use emigre nationalist rabble for subversive purposes. Hence the need for unremitting attentiveness on the part of commanders, political organizers, and party organizations toward questions of international relations in the Armed Forces and for the persistent education of servicemen in the spirit of Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism, a proud sense of belonging to the great, unified Soviet motherland, and implacability toward any manifestations of chauvinism or nationalism.

The Soviet Armed Forces are an army of the friendship of Soviet peoples, an army of international solidarity with the peoples of the socialist countries and the workers of the entire world. Preparing a worthy greeting for the glorious 60-year jubilee of the Soviet Union together with the workers of the city and the village, the men of the Armed Forces are directing their thoughts, knowledge, and abilities toward the realization of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the successful accomplishment of lofty obligations assumed in the socialist competition under the patriotic slogan, "Reliable protection for the peaceful labor of the Soviet people!"

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ARMED FORCES

POLITICAL TRAINING IN THE TRANSBAYKAL MILITARY DISTRICT

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 15, Aug 82 (signed to press 19 Jul 82) pp 37-43

[Article by Lt Gen V. Lomov, member of military council—chief of political directorate of Order of Lenin Transbaykal Military District: "Check of Execution"]

[Excerpts] The political directorate of the Order of Lenin Transbaykal Military District is constantly concerned about improving the organization of a check of execution. Along with the intensification of organizational work among the troops, we have begun to practice more often the listening to reports of the chiefs of political departments and other political officers on specific problems of party-political work with its preliminary study at the site. Thus, during the current year alone the following reports of chiefs of political organs were heard: "On intensification of the leadership of party organizations and raising their activity, initiative, and combat vitality in the accomplishment of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress," "On the organizational and political work of commanders, the political department, and party organizations on raising the responsibility of the communists of control organs for the quality accomplishment of plans for combat training," and "On the work of the political department and party organizations in strengthening military discipline." Also heard in the political directorate were the reports of the secretary of the party committee of a tank regiment, "On the work of the party committee in ensuring the vanguard role and the social-political and service activity of the communists in the accomplishment of the decisions of the 26th Party Congress" and of a regimental political officer, "On the leadership of socialist competition of the personnel for a worthy greeting for the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR."

Questions of the accomplishment of the monitoring and checking of execution began to be brought up more often for the discussion of commanders, political officers, and party organizations. Thus, their experience is generalized and the responsibility of people for the assigned work sector is increased. Thus, in the period of assemblies of large-unit commanders, their deputies, and chiefs of arms and services the following question was discussed: "On the work of commanders, political organs, and staffs in improving the monitoring and checking of execution in the matter of strengthening military discipline in light of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the requirements of the Soviet Minister of Defense and the Chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy."

In striving to increase the effectiveness of monitoring and checking execution, we lay primary emphasis on work directly in the large units and units where success of combat training and an improvement in the ability and the strengthening of the personnel's military discipline are decided. Here, we try not to scatter our forces but to travel out in large groups and to work on specific problems which are most important at a given moment. The plan assignments, as a rule, envisage not only a study of the state of affairs on various directions, but also rendering practical assistance to commanders, political officers, and the party and Komsomol activists in carrying out what has been planned.

For example, a group of officers from the political directorate under the direction of the first deputy chief of the political directorate, Major General I. Solodilov, studied how the decree of the CPSU Central Committee, "On further improvement of ideological and political-indoctrinational work," is being implemented. It made a thorough analysis of the activity of commanders, political organs, and party organizations. Many shortcomings in the ideological-political indoctrination of the personnel were eliminated on the spot. In particular, the personnel of the political department rendered specific assistance to the leaders of groups for Marxist-Leninist training of officers and agitation-propaganda collectives and groups. For example, they edited many abstracts and lectures, conducted individual talks with people, and appeared before group leaders and unofficial propagandists with lectures on the procedure for conducting a seminar and on the organization of officers' independent work.

The practice of bringing the results of the work of generals and officers of the political directorate in large units and units to the broad circle of party activists and communists is justifying itself. It mobilizes them for the accomplishment of the tasks facing the personnel. The results of the check are discussed at sessions of party committees and party bureaus and at party meetings which the officers of the political directorate attend. Such direct participation of our personnel in the measures being conducted permits the efficient dissemination of favorable experience, concentrating the attention of the activists on shortcomings, and giving advice on how to eliminate these defects.

Intensification of the effectiveness of monitoring and checking execution is furthered to a great extent by the repeated study of problems in the political organs and party organizations and an analysis of their work in accomplishing instructions and recommendations given earlier to the political organ. Such a check, for example, was conducted by our officers in the political department of the district's headquarters and directorates. A check was made of how the political department leads primary party organizations and indoctrinates the communists in a spirit of responsibility for improving the control of the troops, maintaining high combat readiness, improving the training of large units and units, and strengthening military discipline among the personnel. The check showed that many recommendations of the political directorate are being carried out and the political department and party organizations are devoting more attention to questions of ideological tempering and the professional and moral-psychological training of the officers. They have begun to study Marxist-Leninist theory more persistently, expand their political horizon, master their direct functional duties better, and searchingly seek more improved methods for the creative accomplishment of their duties. At the same time, new unused capabilities and reserves were disclosed in the work of the political department and party organizations which were indicated in the critique of the check's results.

In order to implement more effective monitoring and eliminate parallelism and duplication in work as well as to increase the responsibility of personnel for the accomplishment of training plans, the political directorate coordinates measures being planned for the period of training as well as for each month with the staff and with the appropriate political organs, and the latter--with the primary party organizations, orienting them toward the accomplishment of the main, primary tasks.

The political directorate and political organs are constantly checking how the critical remarks and suggestions of the communists which have been expressed in the period of election meetings are being realized. The party activists and all party members and candidate members are systematically informed on the course of implementation of these suggestions. In this regard, in the absolute majority of the district's party organizations it has become an immutable rule to put into practice persistently everything which was proposed in the course of election as well as current meetings and to check the course of implementation of the suggestions and the realization of critical remarks.

In raising the effectiveness of the check of execution, we are improving the organization for instructing the party activists in forms and methods for the organization and conduct of the monitoring and checking of the decisions which have been adopted. These questions are considered at assemblies and seminars which are conducted with the chiefs of political departments and secretaries of party committees and bureaus and, most important--great attention is devoted to them during work directly in the units and large units.

However, it must be admitted that for the present we are not succeeding in everything. The political directorate, political organs, and party committees and bureaus still do not have sufficient and proper efficiency and combat vitality in their work. At times, we fight for constant and strict monitoring in words but do not always accomplish it in practice and we are not genuinely concerned about improving the matter itself. Some leaders rely only on their own energies and do a poor job of involving communists in the check of execution. The political directorate is drawing the necessary conclusions from all this. We have begun to a deeper analysis of the work on organizing a systematic, efficient check of execution and we are striving to eliminate the shortcomings which are disclosed here in an effective manner. The requirements of the 26th CPSU Congress and the November (1981) and May (1982) plenums of the CPSU Central Committee as well as the instructions of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev give us clear reference points in work which is directed toward a further rise in the quality of monitoring as a necessary condition for the successful accomplishment of the tasks facing the troops of the district.

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ARMED FORCES

INDOCTRINATION GUIDE ON DEFENSE OF THE HOMELAND

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 15, Aug 82 (signed to press 19 Jul 82) pp 61-67

[Article by Maj G. Petrenko: "A Sacred Duty, An Honorable Obligation"; passages rendered in all capital letters printed in bldface in source]

[Text] Material for political lessons on the subject, "The defense of the socialist fatherland and military service--the sacred duty and honorable obligation of the Soviet citizen."

This subject opens the section of the plan which is to be studied with the men who are beginning service prior to the new training year. The section includes six subjects. Two hours are allotted to each of them. It is recommended that the lessons be conducted by the method of narration and a lively, detailed talk.

IN THE COURSE OF THE NARRATION on the first subject, "The defense of the socialist fatherland and military service--the sacred duty and honorable obligation of the Soviet citizen," the following questions should be examined: 1. The Soviet Union--the first socialist fatherland of the workers on Earth. 2. Defense of the socialist fatherland--the sacred constitutional duty of Soviet citizens.

The lesson is called upon to assist the students to have a deeper understanding of the Lenin teaching on the socialist fatherland and the necessity for its armed defense, of their honorable constitutional duty to the motherland, and of the requirements of the 26th CPSU Congress and the Soviet Minister of Defense for the vigilance and combat readiness of our Armed Forces under the conditions of a sharp aggravation of the international situation.

IN A SHORT INTRODUCTION, it is important to note that the soldiers and seamen of the autumn 1982 call-up are beginning their service at the threshold of a significant date--the 60th anniversary of the formation of the Soviet Union. These were glorious although, at times, also very difficult decades in the life of the country. And our youth, led and inspired by the Leninist party of communists, was always on the front line of the struggle.

Addressing Soviet youths and girls from the rostrum of the 19th Komsomol Congress, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev said: "Your predecessors, the legendary fighters of the Civil War and shock workers of the first five-year plans, the heroes of the Great Patriotic

War and the postwar renaissance, and the participants in the giant construction sites of recent decades created everything that we have today. They are transferring to your hands a priceless property--the first state of victorious socialism in the world, a society which is building communism. In this legacy, comrades, there is everything for our desires for you to become a reality. You yourselves, the youth of the 1980's, will have to do it--your labor, your ability, your enthusiasm. And we believe that you will be worthy of the historic tasks which are facing you."

Our party has placed a special responsibility in the accomplishment of these tasks on the men of the Soviet Armed Forces. Speaking in Leninist terms, they are called upon to guard the achievements of the revolution and our people's power. And they are doing this bravely, skillfully, with dignity and honor. And as befits Soviet people --convinced patriots and internationalists.

1. The Soviet Union--The First Socialist Fatherland of the Workers on Earth

The fatherland.... It is the territory in which we were born and grew up. Our own land on which we live and work. The country whose sons and daughters we are. Great, immense expanses of our motherland. It stretched almost 10,000 kilometers from west to east. Its extreme points are so distant from one another that when one of them is occupied by daybreak dusk is closing at the other.

The variety of our natural and climate conditions is truly infinitely amazing. The eternal silence of the Arctic and subtropics of the Transcaucasus, the burning deserts of Turkmenia and the taiga tracts of Siberia, the Pamir-Tyan'-Shan' ridges beyond the clouds and the Kazakhstan steppes which slip away beyond the horizon.... Such is the inimitable landscape of our fatherland. Its underground larders are rich with natural minerals. The USSR is the only state in the world which is completely provided with its own mineral-raw material resources which are necessary for the comprehensive development of the economy.

However, when we speak of the fatherland, we have in mind not only the geographic position and the natural-climate conditions of one country or another. The fatherland is an historic and class concept. It has its own social nature. This nature is determined by the political and economic system existing in the country. "The fatherland, that is, a given political, cultural, and social environment," V. I. Lenin taught, "is the mightiest factor in the proletariat's class struggle" ("Polnoye sobraniye sochineniy" [Complete Works], Vol 17, p 190).

It should be explained to the students that the founders of scientific communism defended the necessity for a specific-historical, class approach to the concept of "fatherland." They repeatedly pointed to the presence of bourgeois and socialist fatherlands in contemporary society. The bourgeois fatherland is a genuine paradise for the rich and hell for the poor. Hence the conclusion: under capitalism, in a certain sense the workers do not have a fatherland (see K. Marx and F. Engels, "Sochineniya" [Works], Vol 4, p 444). Only socialism, the classics of Marxism-Leninism taught, can lead to the formation to a genuine fatherland for millions of working people.

In disclosing further the content of the question, it should be noted that the socialist fatherland differs radically from a bourgeois one. Under capitalism the

natural attachment and love of the workers for their native land is weighed down, as if by a press, by consciousness of the fact that the main portion of the riches created by their hands belongs to a small group of exploiter-monopolists. It is namely the millionaires and billionaires who are the actual masters of the bourgeois countries and direct the policy of their governments, not in the interests of the broad popular masses, but for their own, imperialist goals. The deeply reactionary orders in these countries are causing the anger and indignation of the workers and stir them to action for the revolutionary, democratic renewal of society.

Millions of working people in the entire world are turning their eyes toward the motherland of Lenin, toward the motherland of October. Our country is rightly considered the beacon of a new life, the luminary of hope, and the support of all the oppressed and unfortunate on Earth. The Soviet Union, it says in the decree of the CPSU Central Committee dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR, appears before the entire world as an harmonious family of republics having equal rights and building communism together.

October smashed the chain of social and national oppression and lifted all the peoples of our motherland to independent historic creativity. Their unity was tempered and strengthened in the course of the country's industrialization, the collectivization of agriculture, and the cultural revolution and in the struggle for the building and defense of socialism.

Based on their own experience, the peoples of our country were convinced that unity in a single union multiplies their strength and accelerates socio-economic development. In speaking of this, it is expedient that the propagandist refer to the specific achievements in communist construction of the oblast, kray, and republic in which the men of a given subunit, unit, or ship are serving. He can get the necessary information in the reference book "SSSR v tsifrakh..." [The USSR in Figures] which is published annually by the Central Statistical Administration.

Next, he should say that the 60 years of the Soviet state which have elapsed were years of its swift socio-economic upward flight. The national income of our country grew repeatedly during this period. Its share in world industrial production rose from 1 percent in 1922 to 20 percent now. A result of the revolutionary-transforming activity of the Soviet people, led by the Leninist Communist Party, was the building of a developed socialist society in the USSR.

The mature socialist social relations were consolidated in our country at the stage of developed socialism. The task of equalizing the levels of economic development of the Soviet republics has been basically accomplished. The juridical and actual equality of all nations and nationalities of the USSR has been ensured. The general nature of the social policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state is visibly manifested now as never before. This policy is directed first of all toward the accomplishment of such tasks, which are urgent for all the nations and nationalities of the country, as raising the well-being, education, and culture of the Soviet citizens, improving their conditions for work and rest, developing housing construction, and improving the system for social security, medical and domestic services, and environmental protection. And it is bringing good fruits.

Thus, the real income of the population in the Soviet Union doubled during the last 15 years alone. Large-scale social measures mapped out by the 26th CPSU Congress

are being accomplished successfully. In particular, the wages of the workers in the coal industry increased. The rates of pay for a number of categories of light-industry workers were increased beginning 1 March 1982. The material status of 4.5 million large families was improved. Fourteen million people received a substantial increase in their pensions. Necessary measures are being adopted to realize the country's Food Program. Its accomplishment, as Comrade L. I. Brezhnev noted at the May (1982) plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, is not only a radical turn in the rise of agriculture and the branches connected with it. In its nature and scale it is called upon to ensure the progress of the entire national economy.

Thus, what has been achieved by our society in socio-economic development and in raising the material and cultural standard of living of the people is an entire era. The atmosphere of collectivism and comradeship, the solidarity and friendship of all nations and nationalities, the moral health of society, genuine democracy and social optimism, and an intolerant attitude toward deviations from the principles of socialist morals--such are the most important facets of the Soviet way of life.

The lofty humanism of the inter-nation relations which have been firmly consolidated in the Soviet Union are manifested especially graphically against the background of the aggravation of national contradictions in the capitalist states and the raging of nationalism, chauvinism, and racism in them (see Propagandist's Brief Glossary published at the end of the article [not translated]). All the world knows of the cruel exploitation and discrimination (restriction in rights, deprivation of equality of rights) of national minorities and foreign workers in the capitalist countries. Fighters for civil and national rights in the United States, Northern Ireland which is part of Great Britain's United Kingdom, Republic of South Africa, and other capitalist states are subjected to severe repression (penalties, punitive measures) and persecution.

Take, as an example, the United States of America, the richest country in the capitalist world. According to official statistics, more than 10 million people here are unemployed. This is about 10 percent of its able-bodied population. Unemployment in the United States strikes most painfully those who have been placed in the status of "second-class" citizens here--Negroes, Indians, and emigres from countries of Latin America. Twenty percent of those looking for work in the United States are people of Negro origin. But you see, they comprise only one tenth of this country's population. The question arises, in this connection what is the worth of the hypocritical statements of American propaganda about the "rights of man?" Each unprejudiced person sees that capitalism is unable to resolve the national problem which it has engendered.

Having noted this fact, the propagandist directs the attention of the students to the fact that the formation of the Soviet Union gave gigantic acceleration to the spiritual development of the Soviet people. On the rich soil of mature socialism, it is noted in the decree of the CPSU Central Committee, "On the 60th anniversary of the formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics," the common inter-nation culture of the Soviet people which serves all workers and expresses their common ideals is growing and strengthening.

An important factor of the fraternal unity of our peoples, their cultural exchange, and access to the spiritual values of world civilization is the Russian language. It is voluntarily adopted by the Soviet people as the language of intercourse between the nations.

Life proves: the USSR is the most effective form of the state amalgamation of the Soviet nations and nationalities. The Soviet state is the power which was established and is being implemented by the laboring masses themselves. At the stage of developed socialism it has developed from a state of the dictatorship of the proletariat to a socialist state of the entire people. Our state expresses and defends the vital interests of all Soviet workers.

During the years which have elapsed since the Great October, socialist democracy--democracy for the people-- was firmly established in the USSR and is developing. It creates real opportunities for each Soviet person for ever broader and more direct participation in the control of the affairs of the state and society.

A brilliant manifestation of our system's democracy consists of the most mass and competent organs of state power--the Soviets of People's Deputies. Present in them are 2.3 million elected representatives of the people--communists and non-party, representatives of more than 100 nations and nationalities of the country.

The Communist Party of the Soviet Union steps forth as the leading and directing force of Soviet society and the nucleus of its political system and state and public organizations. The CPSU, it says in the Soviet constitution, exists for the people and serves the people.

Next, it is necessary to stress that Soviet people are being brought up by the party in a spirit of Marxism-Leninism and on the ideas of Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism. Each Soviet person, regardless of his national affiliation, first of all realizes himself to be a citizen of his socialist fatherland enjoying full and equal rights. "Feeling for the motherland," writes Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev in the book "Vospominaniya" [Recollections], "is very strongly developed in each of us. A wonderful feeling! And it is fed, of course, not only by the contemplation of the beauty of our land. As they say, one must take root in it, and when a person works on it until he sweats, grows grain, lays the foundation for a city, builds a new road, or digs a trench on this land, defending it--then he will have a complete understanding of what the motherland is."

The Soviet fatherland can be proud--it has about 270 million loyal sons and daughters brought up by the Leninist party. They have something to defend and they have the wherewithal to defend it. Truly prophetic proved to be the words of V. I. Lenin who noted that the people will never be defeated in which the majority of the workers and peasants learned, felt, and saw that they are defending their own, Soviet power--the power of the workers, that they are defending the cause whose victory will ensure for them and their children the opportunity to enjoy all the blessings of culture, all the creations of human labor (see "Polnoye sobraniye sochineniy," Vol 38, p 315).

2. The Defense of the Socialist Fatherland--The Sacred Constitutional Duty of Soviet Citizens

In beginning the second question, the students should be reminded that Marxism-Leninism considers the defense of the socialist fatherland as an objective historic necessity. In elaborating the teaching on the defense of the socialist fatherland, V. I. Lenin proved that the effectiveness of such a defense is determined by an intricate complex of economic, political, spiritual, and military measures accomplished

under the party's direction. Our leader saw the path to the strengthening of the state's defensive might in the steady development of Soviet industry, science, and technology, in the socialist transformation of agriculture, in the conduct of a cultural revolution, and in the communist indoctrination and international solidarity of the workers.

In the course of the narration, it is necessary to note that V. I. Lenin's teaching about the defense of the socialist fatherland is a component part of his theory of socialist revolution and an objective regular law of the building of socialism and communism. An important place in this teaching is devoted to substantiating the historic predestination of the Soviet Armed Forces, their social nature and typical features, and the principles of Soviet military organizational development. V. I. Lenin considered the highest of such principles to be the leadership of the army and navy on the part of the Communist Party. Vladimir Il'ich saw the main source of the invincibility of the Soviet Armed Forces in the party leadership of Soviet military organizational development.

Being guided by the Lenin teaching on the defense of the socialist fatherland, in the shortest time our party was able to create an army which became the real personification of the heroism and courage of the pioneers of the new society. This was brilliantly manifested in the years of the Civil War. Representatives of almost 50 nationalities, to the majority of whom tsarism was afraid to entrust weapons prior to the Great October, fought side by side against the foreign interventionists and White Guardists in the ranks of the young Red Army, the first army in the world which clearly recognized the just goals of its struggle. The bright ideals of the revolution and the struggle for the happiness of the people cemented the military formation, gave it unprecedented strength, inspired the Red Army men and Red Navy men to heroic exploits in the name of their own, socialist fatherland, and led them to victory.

The strength of the Soviet state and the might of its Armed Forces were also manifested with all completeness in the years of the Great Patriotic War. In battles for the honor, freedom, and independence of the motherland the Soviet Armed Forces appeared before the world as an army of mass heroism, friendship, and military comradeship where the personnel fought with the hated aggressors not sparing what was most precious--life.

A typical example: the famous House of Pavlov in Stalingrad was defended by Russians Ya. Pavlov, I. Voronov, and M. Kiselev, Ukrainians V. Glushchenko and P. Dovzhenko, the Georgian I. Mosiashvili, the Tajik M. Turdyev, the Kazakh T. Murzayev, the Uzbek K. Turgunov, the Tatar F. Ramazanov, and others.

And the multinational detachment of Black Sea amphibious troops under the command of Senior Lieutenant K. Ol'shanskiy! It consisted of 68 men, and they were all awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union for valor and fearlessness displayed in the Nikolayevsk assault landing. In a fierce, unequal battle the Russian Ye. Pavlov, the Ukrainian K. Shpak, the Belorussian P. Vansetskiy, the Azerbaijani A. Mamedov, the Kazakh A. Abdulmedzhidov, the Tatar M. Khakimov, the Kirghiz A. Khayrutdinov, and the Kabardinian A. Chuts held out steadfastly, as brothers, in the fierce, unequal battle and performed their duty to the motherland to the end.

The fact that among those awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union are representatives of more than 100 nations and nationalities of the USSR also tells convincingly of the combat friendship, unity, and solidarity of our peoples in the years of the Great Patriotic War and about their common striving for victory.

Next it should be noted that the Soviet Armed Forces attained a qualitatively new position in their historic development at the stage of mature socialism. At this stage, the socio-political and ideological unity of the ranks of the Armed Forces acquired special strength. The collective of any subunit, unit, or ship is now a single harmonious family where representatives of many of our union republics are serving side by side. In this regard, we can refer to the following example.

For the fourth year in a row, the company commanded by Captain V. Shinkarenko is occupying first place in the unit according to the results of combat and political training. People change, but the composition of the subunit invariably remains multinational. The traditions of mutual assistance, support, comradely demandingness, and the responsibility of the servicemen for one another also remain just as invariable here. Firm military cohesion and a deep realization of their duty in the defense of the socialist fatherland help the personnel to achieve victory in socialist competition from year to year, enrich the people spiritually, and give the collective special strength.

And there is a great number of such examples in the Armed Forces. And this is completely proper. For today's Armed Forces are an integral and component part of the historically new social and international community of people--the Soviet people. Our servicemen are genuine brothers in class, in conviction, and in the goals which they serve. The conscientious accomplishment of military obligations occurs in them first of all from moral convictions, from devotion to the ideals of communism and the principles of Soviet patriotism and proletarian, socialist internationalism, and the deeply realized necessity to defend the socialist fatherland reliably from the aggressive aspirations of imperialism and its accomplices.

In organizing and directing military organizational development, the Communist Party invariably proceeds from the Lenin teaching on the defense of the socialist fatherland and constantly considers the increased economic and scientific-technical capabilities of Soviet society, the changes in its socio-class and national structure, and the achievements of our way of life. Responding to the concern of the CPSU for the further strengthening of the country's economic and defensive power by deed, the personnel of the Armed Forces are tirelessly improving their skill and increasing organization and discipline, vigilance and combat readiness.

A sense of national pride is inherent in full measure in the men of the Armed Forces as well as in the Soviet people in general. It is the sense of a citizen of the first socialist state in the world which is richest in its content, a sense of the deep tie with his people who are creating communism, and a sense of personal responsibility for the fate of his socialist fatherland. It unites the soldier and the seaman and stimulates them to cherish and multiply the glorious combat traditions of the Soviet Armed Forces, and to accomplish irreproachably the important missions assigned to the Armed Forces by the party and its 26th Congress.

The essence of these missions, it is said in the Soviet constitution, consists of the defense of the socialist achievements, the peaceful labor of the Soviet people,

and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the state. The basic law of our country declares the defense of the socialist fatherland to be one of the most important functions of the state and a matter for the entire people, and it establishes the universal military obligation in the USSR. It stresses that the defense of the socialist fatherland is the sacred duty of each Soviet citizen, and military service--the honorable obligation of Soviet citizens. In accordance with the constitution state organs, public organizations, and officials and citizens accomplish certain duties in ensuring the security of the country and strengthening its defensive capability which are determined by legislation of the Soviet Union.

In the law of the USSR on the universal military obligation it says that all males who are citizens of the USSR are required to perform active military service in the ranks of the Soviet Armed Forces regardless of origin, social and property status, race and national affiliation, education, language, attitude toward religion, type and nature of occupation, and place of residence. To serve in them is the greatest honor for a young Soviet person.

In our country, soldierly labor and military service are surrounded by universal respect. Soviet people are accustomed to seeing in the serviceman not simply a narrow military specialist, but a person of lofty moral-political and combat qualities who is called upon to defend with weapon in hand the holiest of holies--the freedom and independence of his motherland. Comrade L.I. Brezhnev showed that our soldierly labor is labor in the name of peace. For our might is not turned and never will be turned against other peoples. It is a formidable warning to those who covet what is not theirs, who have their eye on the interests of our country and on the interests of the entire socialist commonwealth. Since the adventurists have not died out, peace on Earth depends on the combat readiness and combat capability of our Armed Forces. The peace to which the Country of Soviets has devoted its thoughts and its concerns from the first Lenin decree (see "Leninskim kursom" [By the Lenin Course], Vol 7, p 500).

Firmly conducting the Leninist peace-loving foreign-policy line embodied in the Program for Peace for the 1980's adopted by the 26th CPSU Congress, the Communist Party and the Soviet government consider that the tension in the international situation and the threat of the outbreak of a new world war increased sharply recently through the fault of imperialism. Militant imperialist circles, first of all the United States and the other NATO countries, are applying every effort to return mankind to the dark times of the "cold war," undermine the international positions of the USSR and the entire socialist commonwealth, restrain the rise of the national-liberation movement in the world, and return to themselves the role of ruler of the peoples' destinies. They are constantly whipping up the arms race, including nuclear missile weapons, and are increasing military appropriations at unprecedented rates.

Thus, the expenditures of the American administration for the Pentagon's needs in 1983 alone will comprise a fabulous sum--263.3 billion dollars! The claims of the United States to world domination which are dangerous for the cause of peace in the entire world--this is what is concealed behind the growth in the military expenditures of this capitalist country.

"The militaristic course and aggressive policy of the NATO bloc headed by the United States," Comrade L. I. Brezhnev pointed out in a speech at the 17th Soviet Trade Union Congress, "force us to adopt measures to maintain the country's defensive

capability at the proper level. It is a severe necessity of today's world and it, of course, requires the diverting of many resources to the detriment of our plans for peaceful construction. But, as I have already found fit to say many times, we are not spending and will not spend for these purposes one ruble more than absolutely necessary to ensure the security of our people and their friends and allies."

The great Lenin willed us to accompany our steps toward peace with the straining of all our military readiness. And the party and the entire Soviet people are steadily following this behest which is especially timely today when the aggressiveness of imperialism has increased sharply. Under conditions of the maintenance of tension in the world, the party teaches the Soviet people and the men of the Armed Forces to keep their powder dry and remember their historic responsibility for the fate of socialism as well as to display the highest revolutionary vigilance in everything.

To be vigilant is the first requirement for the soldier and seaman and his first obligation. It is necessary to explain to the students that vigilance is molded by the entire system of training and indoctrination of the Armed Forces personnel. In practice, it is expressed in the special vigilance of the soldier and the seaman and in his timely prevention of everything that can cause harm to the combat capability and combat readiness of the subunit, unit, ship, and the Armed Forces as a whole. Vigilance also means the man's ability to protect military and state secrets and to not divulge secrets entrusted to him. To develop these qualities in himself persistently is the task of tasks of each serviceman.

Constant combat readiness steps forth as the highest manifestation of vigilance. It is the duty of of all servicemen to be in such readiness. In a report at the 6th Army-Wide Conference of Secretaries of Primary Party Organizations, the Soviet Minister of Defense, Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov, pointed out that combat readiness is the main indicator of the qualitative state of the troops and fleet forces.

The basis of high combat readiness is field, sea, and aerial training. In order to acquire the necessary training, the soldier and seaman need to work diligently on each lesson and drill, treasure training time, and display wise initiative and persistence in socialist competition which, in the year of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR, is taking place under the slogan, "Reliable defense for the peaceful labor of the Soviet people!"

It should not be forgotten that contemporary battle is very dynamic and fluid, and the enemy is strong, cunning, and technically well equipped. Such a battle will require of the serviceman the complete straining of spiritual and physical strength and ability and skills in the accomplishment of the assigned missions. This is why the tested rule--to train for what is necessary in war--should become primary for each soldier and seaman.

Firm military discipline and strict prescribed order and organization in the army and fleet collectives are indispensable components of the high vigilance and constant combat readiness of the troops. The undeviating observance of the requirements of the regulations and irreproachable discipline, execution, and obedience should become a law of life for each serviceman.

The mission which has been assigned to our Armed Forces, said the Soviet Minister of Defense, Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov, at a reception in the Kremlin in honor of the graduates of the military academies, is noble and exceptionally important. It is a great honor to serve in their ranks, continue the heroic traditions of the older generations, and multiply the legendary glory with which the battle standards of the Armed Forces are covered. In a single combat formation with the fraternal armies of the states of the Warsaw Pact and other countries of the socialist commonwealth, the Soviet Armed Forces are reliably defending the great achievements of socialism and the cause of peace and social progress.

In completing the presentation of the material, it is necessary to stress once more that the men of the Soviet Armed Forces look upon the defense of the socialist fatherland as their honorable constitutional duty and as a sacred obligation to society. "In realizing the acuteness and complexity of the international situation and the concern of our party for the fates of the world," it was said in their greetings to the 19th Komsomol Congress, "We declare with complete confidence: the Soviet Armed Forces are always on the alert! And if the interests of the beloved motherland's security and the defense of peace and socialism require it, the Soviet servicemen will accomplish their patriotic and international duty with honor."

FOR INDEPENDENT READING, the following should be recommended to the students: the work of V. I. Lenin, "Appeal to the Red Army," ("Polnoye sobraniye sochineniy", Vol 38, pp 234-235); the Constitution of the USSR (Articles 31, 32, 62, 63); excerpts from the report of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, "Report of the CPSU Central Committee to the 26th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Party's Next Tasks in the Field of Domestic and Foreign Policy" ("Materialy XXVI s'yezda KPSS" [Materials of the 26th CPSU Congress], pp 20-31, 66); the decree of the CPSU Central Committee, "On the 60th anniversary of the formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics" (PRAVDA, 21 February 1982); and Chapter I of the textbook for political lessons, "V. I. Lenin o zashchite sotsialisticheskogo Otechestva" [V. I. Lenin on the Defense of the Socialist Fatherland], (Voyenizdat, 1981).

IN THE COURSE OF THE TALK the following questions can be given to the students:

1. What is the fatherland and what are its basic signs?
2. What is the content of the concept "socialist fatherland"?
3. What is the basic difference between a socialist and bourgeois fatherland?
4. Why do we love our motherland--the Soviet Union, the genuine fatherland of millions of working people?
5. What are the basic provisions of the Lenin teaching on the defense of the socialist fatherland?
6. What does it say in the Soviet constitution about the defense of the socialist fatherland?
7. How is the growth in the aggressiveness of imperialism, and first of all of the United States, expressed at the contemporary stage?
8. What does defending the socialist fatherland reliably signify in practice?

Literature for Propagandists

V. I. Lenin. "On the National Pride of the Great Russians," "Polnoye sobraniye sochineniy" [Complete Works], Vol 26, pp 106-110.

V. I. Lenin. "The Military Program of the Proletarian Revolution," "Polnoye sobraniye sochineniy," Vol 30, pp 131-134.

"Konstitutsiya (Osnovnoy Zakon) Soyuzu Sovetskikh Sotsialisticheskikh Respublik" [Constitution (Basic Law) of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics], Articles 31, 32, 62, 63.

L. I. Brezhnev. "Report of the CPSU Central Committee to the 26th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Next Tasks of the Party in the Area of Domestic and Foreign Policy," "Materialy XXVI s'yezda KPSS" [Materials of the 26th CPSU Congress], pp 20-31, 66.

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"Leninism--The Inexhaustible Source of the Masses' Revolutionary Energy and Creativity." Report by member of CPSU Central Committee Politburo, Yu. V. Andropov, at the ceremonial session in Moscow devoted to the 112th anniversary of the birth of V. I. Lenin, PRAVDA, 23 April 1982.

D. F. Ustinov. "The Army of the Friendship of Peoples," PRAVDA, 23 February 1982.

D. F. Ustinov. "Report at the 6th Army-Wide Conference of Secretaries of Primary Party Organizations," KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL, No 11, 1982, pp 7-14.

D. F. Ustinov. Speech at reception in the Kremlin in honor of graduates of the military academies, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 1 July 1982.

A. A. Yepishev. "Report at the 6th Army-Wide Conference of Secretaries of Primary Party Organizations," KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL, No 11, 1982, pp 15-21.

A. A. Yepishev, "Bring Up Defenders of the Motherland Who Are Steadfast and Devoted," KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 8 July 1982.

"Greetings of the Delegation of the Soviet Armed Forces to the 19th Komsomol Congress," PRAVDA, 21 May 1982.

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ARMED FORCES

DISCIPLINE ARTICLES IN MILITARY JOURNALS EVALUATED

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 15, Aug 82 (signed to press 19 Jul 82) pp 74-77

[Article by Col A. Solov'yev: "Constant Attention to Questions of Discipline"]

[Text] In the greetings to the participants in the Army-Wide Conference of Secretaries of Primary Party Organizations, our party's Central Committee stressed as one of the most important tasks of party-political work the ensuring of high military discipline and military order. The Soviet Minister of Defense, Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov, said in speaking at this conference: "There is no combat readiness without firm discipline.... We should see that the life's position of each serviceman is determined by conviction: the regulation and the order are a law which must be accomplished by all strictly and implicitly!"

The struggle for the further strengthening of discipline and organization is a matter for commanders, political officers, and party and Komsomol organizations. The military press, including such journals as VOYENNY VESTNIK, VESTNIK PROTIVOVOZDUSHNOY OBORONY, MORSKOY SBORNIK, and AVIATSIYA I KOSMONAVTIKA, which will be discussed, also steps forth as their active assistant in the upbringing of disciplined servicemen.

In taking up questions of discipline for any military publication, the initial proposition is: discipline--a political and moral category. Its foundation consists of the ideological conviction of the men and the spiritual maturity of the military collective. And once this is so, it is necessary to strengthen this foundation first of all to strengthen conscious military discipline.

Naturally, the journals place primary emphasis on disclosing the questions of ideological-political and moral indoctrination of the servicemen and on molding in them an acute sense of responsibility for the security of the country and the defense of socialism. For this purpose, the journals propagandize widely the Lenin teaching on the defense of the socialist fatherland and the behests of the great leader for the servicemen. The historic predestination of a socialist army and the steady increase in the role of the Communist Party in military organizational development are disclosed in the materials prepared by qualified authors and prominent military leaders, commanders, political officers, and scholars.

An appreciable place is occupied by publications in which the requirements of the military oath and the military regulations are propagandized. And this is natural.

Each of their provisions is the experience of many generations of Soviet servicemen who defended the freedom and independence of the first socialist state in the world on the fields of battle. The essence of military duty and the system of the training and indoctrination of the servicemen is defined in them. The regulations contain the answer to the main question--how to defeat the enemy.

The journals are conducting a conversation about the regulations and military oath in several directions. Here is the article by the commander of an excellent air squadron, Lieutenant Colonel Yu. Grigor'yev, "On the Firm Basis of the Regulations," in VESTNIK PROTIVOVOSDUSHNOY OBORONY. The leading commander writes that the best results are attained when the unity of word and deed is ensured and the profound explanation of the requirements of the regulations is combined with daily struggle for their introduction into life. Using examples from the life of his collective, the author of the article shows how the men are struggling for the unconditional accomplishment of training plans and schedules and for the high quality of each lesson. Clear military order, the thoroughly thought out organization of the collective's entire life, and the strict monitoring of the accomplishment of the regulations' requirements, the author concludes, effectively influence the molding of discipline, military bearing, self-collection, and a readiness for immediate actions in the men.

Another important thought is expressed in the material, "Unremitting Attention to the Service of the Troops" published in this same journal: discipline and combat readiness are unthinkable without the clearly organized service of the daily detail and guard which are called upon actively to maintain firm internal order in the unit and subunit, see to the exact accomplishment of the daily schedule, and ensure the vigilant guarding of military posts, armaments, combat equipment, ammunition, premises, and property.

The primary role in consolidating prescribed order in the unit and on the ship, in the organization of the training-indoctrinational process and standby alert, and in strengthening discipline belongs to the commanders. Therefore, the journals strive to disclose their activity profoundly and comprehensively and to show leading experience in the accomplishment of these tasks.

For example, a discussion of the article by Senior Lieutenant E. Veselov, "The Commander's Personal Example," was begun in VOYENNY VESTNIK. In the author's opinion, the commander's personal example is the strongest weapon in the struggle for firm discipline. Based on his own experience, the officer was convinced that only by following the remarkable slogan, "Do as I Do," can success be attained in the training and indoctrination of subordinates. They begin genuinely to respect the commander from the moment, the author muses, that his knowledge is profound, he can answer any question in detail and, most important, can provide a practical demonstration on how to accomplish one or another task.

In the course of the discussion much attention was devoted to such important qualities of the commander as demandingness, strict exactingness toward himself and his subordinates, closeness to people, tact, and sensitivity, and to the ability of the officers to instill clear and undeviating execution in their subordinates.

Articles and correspondence are published in all journals in which the industriousness of the serviceman is considered in light of contemporary requirements and where

the time factor has acquired special acuteness. The slightest delay in the accomplishment of the assigned mission may cost dearly in a combat situation. This, for example, was discussed convincingly in the article by Captain S. Tyshchenko, "The Industriousness of the Officer," published in VOYENNY VESTNIK. His arguments about ostentatious and genuine industriousness and the self-collection and frame of mind of the serviceman for the accomplishment of an order or instruction sounds conclusive. He criticizes those who divide orders into important and secondary.

The strict but fair demand of the commander, believes Major B. Mazhachkin, author of the article "The Officer's Tact," published in this same journal, best of all generates the habit of obedience in a subordinate, instills in him a confidence in his own strength, and tempers the will and character. The arguments of the article's author on the officer's tact, closeness to subordinates, and concern for them are interesting. Closeness to people, he believes, makes it possible for the commander to catch the slightest nuances in attitudes and to influence them in the needed direction effectively. Each officer is called upon to possess the lofty style of intercourse which is structured entirely on the overall style of a person and on respect for subordinates.

Nor do the journals overlook such important aspects in the instilling of industriousness as the strict monitoring of the execution of orders and instructions which have been issued and the skillful employment of punishment and rewards. Senior Lieutenant N. Makarin, in the article, "Be Able to Indoctrinate" which was published in VOYENNY VESTNIK, notes that he tries to see everything good in subordinates, considers it in his work, and rewards the men in time for initiative and clear industriousness which have been displayed. The commander's praise, the officer believes, is an important event in the soldier's service and it doubles his strength. It is the primary matter of each commander to learn to use correctly such a fine pedagogical tool as disciplinary practice.

The journals are persistently seeking possibilities to disclose other facets of military discipline and often conduct necessary analytical work. This pertains first of all to VESTNIK PROTIV VOZDUSHNOY OBORONY. Articles are published on its pages which thoroughly disclose such components of combat readiness as the discipline of combat standby alert, time discipline, discipline of personal and collective responsibility, and the discipline of competent operation of combat equipment and armaments.

The development of such an important subject as the solidarity of the military collective was marked by a creative search. In the article, "The Party Organization and the Solidarity of the Military Collective," Major V. Nushtayev deeply analyzes the successes and failures of subunit officers in work with subordinates and discloses unused possibilities for individual work with people. He correctly believes that each officer and teacher is required to be able to understand a person, see what stands behind his attitude, and be a psychologist at least to a small degree.

In speaking about the content of the materials on the subject of military discipline, I should like to dwell especially on the selection of presentations by authors from the Transbaykal Military District under the overall title, "Steps in Formation," which was published in VOYENNY VESTNIK. Taken as the epigraph for it were the words of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev from his book "Vospominaniya" [Recollections] where

he warmly recalls his former commanders in service in this stern territory. By the way, the journals often turn to the books of L. I. Brezhnev, "Malaya Zemlya," "Tselina" [Virgin Land], "Vozrozhdeniya" [Renaissance], and "Vospominaniya" as a fount of wisdom, the rich experience of party-political work, and the most important subjects including questions of strengthening discipline.

Materials of the selection show that the present generation of commanders is carrying in a worthy manner the baton received from its older comrades. In the articles and correspondence of Lieutenant I. Nadler, "Strengthen Discipline," Senior Lieutenant A. Orlov, "Be Closer to People," and Senior Lieutenant V. Salat, "Raise Skill," the personal experience of the officers in the struggle for firm military discipline in the subunits which they command is well shown. The officers relate how they study their subordinates and conduct indoctrinational work, and how they rely on the activists in their activity.... And they tell it simply, frankly, and demonstratively. The selection of materials proved to be both interesting and instructive. In their account and presentation it is a sincere dialogue of officers of the same age who are persistently seeking ways to improve indoctrinational work further.

It is noteworthy that the authors from among the young officers, especially in VOYENNY VESTNIK and VESTNIK PROTIVOVOZDUSHNOY OBORONY, have become noticeably more numerous in the journals. A "fresh wind" has burst onto their pages, and from them came the breath of training fields, marches, cruises, and flights and more emotion and actualness appeared in the articles. And, in our opinion, this is a good sign. And the journals are making another good attempt--to attract to a discussion of urgent problems as many specialists, authoritative and leading commanders, and political officers as possible--the immediate creators of favorable experience.

From what has been said, it is evident that the journals have taken steps forward in taking up military discipline. Their tie with the life of the units and ships and with the tasks being accomplished by the men has become closer. The informational saturation of the materials has increased. Analytical articles and specific recommendations have increased. The literary level of many articles has risen.

However, in approaching an evaluation of the journals' activity from positions of the party's increased requirements and considering the importance of the subject, we cannot fail to see that they still use their wealth of capabilities far from completely.

The process of bringing up disciplined, industrious men is difficult and many-faceted. It was stressed many times in party documents that in this matter, just as in all indoctrinational work, there is a need for an integrated approach and ensuring the close unity of ideological-political, labor, military, moral, and legal indoctrination with consideration of the special features of different groups of servicemen. A clear system of indoctrinational, training, and organizational measures, continuity of influence on the military collective and each of its members in the needed direction, coordination of the efforts of commanders, political officers, and the community, and the skillful combination of methods of conviction and compulsion are necessary. The deep penetration into the spiritual world of the men and the most complete consideration of their demands and interests, individual features, and increased general-educational training and culture are needed.

Unfortunately, not all this is considered by the journals. Let us take, for example, legal propaganda. It is well known that Soviet military discipline is an integral part of the qualitatively new, socialist discipline. Therefore, today we can speak of the indoctrination of the personnel in a spirit of strict accomplishment of the regulations' requirements only in an inseparable tie with the accomplishment of the task put forth by the 26th CPSU Congress for the further strengthening of law and order and legality and the upbringing of Soviet people in a spirit of respect for and strict observance of the laws and standards of communist ethics and morality. We are speaking about molding in the servicemen a system of knowledge necessary for the observance of socialist legality on standby alert and in daily life.

It cannot be said that the journals do not concern themselves with this subject at all. In MORSKOY SBORNIK, for example, consultations were published to assist the leaders of groups for political lessons on "V. I. Lenin and the CPSU on strengthening socialist legality and law and order. Be an example in accomplishing the requirements of the laws, military oath, and military regulations," in VESTNIK PROTIVOVOZDUSHNOY OBORONY--the article, "Deep Legal Knowledge for the Officers," and in VOYENNY VESTNIK-- material on the work of the school of legal knowledge. But this, perhaps, is all. As we see, the editors of the journals are using their creative forces and organizational capabilities far from completely. Publications on legal subjects appear randomly. Nor is there any need to mention a separate column or section on their pages.

Nevertheless, such urgent questions as the following have not received their qualified treatment: the influence of socialist competition on the strengthening of organization and order, the daily concern of staff officers for monitoring the accomplishment of training plans, orders, and instructions, and the struggle of party and Komsomol organizations for the model behavior of communists and Komsomols in bringing about order as prescribed by the regulations.

The journals are also working out insufficiently questions which are connected with the participation of engineering and technical personnel in indoctrinational work. The two or three articles published in VESTNIK PROTIVOVOZDUSHNOY OBORONY and AVIATSIYA I KOSMONAVTIKA hardly exhaust this broad subject. For it is no secret that engineering and technical personnel comprise a significant part of the servicemen. However, some commanders do not lean on them and at times do not know how to do it. As a result, the latter are restricted to the solution of narrow technical problems and do not always use their knowledge and experience for the indoctrination of the men.

In our opinion, the journals could deal with problems of discipline more deeply and comprehensively if they had a clearer and better thought-out system for submitting materials. And such a system, evidently, could include the publication of theoretical and propaganda articles on questions of discipline: problem materials which have posed as their goal the focusing of attention on specific questions of prescribed order and discipline proposed by life and requiring the mobilization of the community's efforts for their solution; articles and correspondence which disclose the leading experience of commanders, political officers, and party and Komsomol organizations; and finally, surveys and notes which tell about the deeds of the men in the most diverse situations.

An analysis of publications shows that they are not purposeful, sometimes only designate urgent thematic lines, and do not work them out thoroughly, in their essence. This can be said, for example, of the material "See Each One" published in MORSKOY SBORNIK. The correspondence discusses the ability of the commander to lean on the activists in the struggle to bring about firm prescribed order. But the author was unable to work out the subject deeply and show experience, and he limited himself to a description of secondary measures.

The following shortcoming is also widespread. The materials are often devoid of a pamphleteer's ardor and often living people cannot be seen behind the calculations and indices. Presentations which are too exhortive are encountered. In some of them, every so often the words "should," "must," "ought to," and "required" are encountered.... Such words, for example, are sprinkled throughout the article "For Firm Military Discipline" published in VOYENNY VESTNIK. In this connection, the statement of M. I. Kalinin is recalled automatically. When I write an article, he said, and, in accordance with the flow of the thought I should say that "one should do," somehow it makes me sick and I try to change such wording. It is quite another matter when you express your thought, appeal, or call by means of reasoning or analysis, by means of the proof of the necessity for one or another measure.... Then, this will also be perceived differently.

Exhortations, just as general words and phrases, "dry out" the material and make it of little interest. In the article, "Discipline Firm with Consciousness," which was published in the same journal, there is no shortage of the words "should" and "ought to...." In addition, the author posed an unaccomplishable task in it: he undertook to disclose an excessively large number of questions. Clearly, the reader did not receive a thorough answer to even one of them. Such materials cause only vexation. But you see, an important subject was selected--how to conduct preventive work with people and eliminate the reasons which engender violations. But alas, known truths which there is no necessity to repeat are more enumerated in the article. Such an article will hardly light a spark in the heart of the reader and cause an emotional upsurge.

The journal is strong with the ability to accumulate on its pages the collective thought and experience of the leading officers, with sharp vigilance for what is new, and with intolerance toward any manifestations of sluggishness and routine, a lack of culture, and deviations from the standards. It is required to be a rostrum where successes and shortcomings and where everything with which the men live, on what they are working, and what worries and concerns them is discussed frankly and on the basis of principles. Meanwhile, the journals still rarely address the criticism of negative phenomena which, unfortunately, still exist.

The requirement to conduct the matter on a high ideological-political and professional level, employing the entire arsenal of publicist means, is common for the journals. Among the genres which for the present are rarely used by the editorial boards are "round-table" meetings, the planned rather than incidental discussion of important problems in the strengthening of discipline, indoctrination, and the quality of work, graphic feature stories, and talks with specialists and with leading commanders. Poor use is made of the creative resources of various genre forms and their analytical and figurative possibilities. The editorial boards rarely have recourse to so-called variety forms: notes, sketches, and commentaries. True, except for the journal AVIATSIYA I KOSMONAVTIKA. Here short notes under the headings

"On Subjects of Morals" and "This Did Not Have To Be" are published in almost every number. And they are received with interest by the readers. In them important questions, including moral indoctrination and the strengthening of discipline, are often raised on a comparatively small journal area.

The journals of the Armed Forces services possess a great ideological-political and organizational potential. To use it more effectively for the communist indoctrination of the men and their mobilization for the accomplishment of the tasks for a further rise in combat readiness and the strengthening of discipline and order means actively furthering the putting of the decisions of the 26th Party Congress into action. The authority and popularity of any publication, regardless of its purpose, depends primarily on the actuality and depth of content, accuracy of argumentation, and maturity of publicist thought. Occupying a high place in the system of the military press, the journals of the services of the Armed Forces are called upon to make an appreciable contribution to the realization of the party's requirements concerning the further strengthening of discipline and prescribed order and to the development of the men's further activity.

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ARMED FORCES

ATTENTION PAID TO WAR WIDOWS ASSESSED, IMPROVED

Treatment of Soldiers' Widows Discussed

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Jul 82 p 4

[Article by Col A. Khorev: "Soldiers' Widows"]

[Text] As the poet accurately noted, every soldier has been sent off to war by a woman. But not all of those women have been lucky enough to see their soldiers come home. Many are still waiting. The children have grown up, they have started receiving their pensions, they take care of their grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and they continue to wait and weep for their beloved ones, their only ones. They recall their fleeting youth and their short time of happiness, and they gaze with sadness at portraits enlarged from passport photographs of men with "Voroshilov Marksman" badges on their shirts.

They would now have been sixty or seventy, but they were left forever young, and therefore why should they not still be awaited?

The young must by necessity return.

And so the widows wait.

They wait, despite the fact that their household archives contain funereal mementos, yellowed by age and by widow's tears and heavy like grave slabs, describing the heroism and bravery, faithfulness to the military oath and death in combat. But with this last thing--death--the heart has no wish to make peace. The heart follows its own logic, its own reasoning. It seeks glimmers of hope, and it finds them: Haven't death notices been wrongly sent before? Yes, they have. Three times Valentina Kirillovna Serykh received notification of the death of her husband, Semen Prokop'yevich, and he returned an eagle--a Hero of the Soviet Union.

It is easier to travel the road of life with hope, even the most illusory and impossible, than without it. No one knows this better than our soldiers' widows from their own bitter 40-year experience. Just think--to live 40 years with hope and anticipation!

It may be a pleasure to observe those soldiers' widows who were lucky enough to start a new family following the war. But we must also pay homage to the

the spiritual steadfastness of those who endured their fate of early widowhood throughout their whole lives--from their young years to old age.

Penelope, the heroine of Greek mythology, awaited the return of her husband from Troy for 20 years. Owing to this her image became a lasting symbol of a spouse's faithfulness. And in that comparison, imagine how high History must assess the faithfulness displayed by the widows of soldiers and officers of the Great Patriotic War along their entire road of labor and life!

Great and multifaceted is the heroism of our woman-soldiers, heroism which began with the first days of the war. Perhaps its grandeur lies primarily in the scale of the toil and concern that fell upon the shoulders of the women. And also in the fact that all of this toil and these concerns had to be endured in the face of the constant flow of death notices from the front, crushing the spirit like hailstones. Woman, deemed a weak being since time immemorial, as requiring all defense and protection, courageously withstood one blow of fate after another, and even wrote assurances in her letters to the front that she was living well, with almost not a care in the world--she was concerned for the morale of the fighting men. All of her physical and moral strengths she devoted to the soldierly cause of victory. When the mail brought a death notice of her husband, or a son, or a brother she reformed her pain into strength--either she worked more energetically, or she herself took up arms.

There were many woman soldiers, like the well known heroine, Mariya Vasil'yevna Oktyabr'skaya, the widow of a regimental commissar, who following her husband's death joined the ranks of the fighting and waged war with exceptional valor. But the overwhelming majority of them labored for victory heroically in the rear. Here for example is what Mikhail Illarionovich Kitayev, who was chairman of a kolkhoz in Saratov Oblast during the war, had to say about this:

"Women were the mainstay of the kolkhoz. They labored in all sections. They took courses in machine operation and sat down behind the wheels of the tractors and combines. They became brigade leaders, squad leaders, stablewomen and herdswomen--they did everything. I should note that the machines that were serviced by our women and girls were low power, and they were worn. Meaning that the woman mechanics really had it hard. They froze in the winter, and in the summer there was no shelter from the intense heat and dust. Sometimes, after day-upon-day of shaking on the iron seat, exposed to all of the winds and rains, they couldn't straighten themselves out."

And here is what Valeriy Viktorovich Belokrinitskiy, who worked during the war at the Gorkiy Motor Vehicle Plant as the chief of the shop producing the bodies for BM-13 rockets--the legendary "Katyusha"--had to say:

"The main contingent of the shop's workers were women. Their work was hard, the rocket body was heavy, and its movement and precise mounting on the machine tools required great physical exertion. Our women combined their constant exhaustive heavy work for 12 hours a day with concern for their half-starved and not always healthy children."

Here we see a special facet of the heroism of the woman soldiers, perhaps less noticed and celebrated than others. The poems, songs, films and stories about

the wartime Soviet woman laid their emphasis as a rule on the fact that she was "a spinner and a weaver, capable with the needle and the saw." All of this is true, there is nothing that we can add or subtract here, the entire rear was held together by self-sacrificing female labor. But for the woman soldiers perhaps the most painful, most sensitive and most vulnerable side of their lives was the children.

We, in this day and age, were not the first to say that children are the flowers of life. Children have always been flowers to parents. And flowers are embodiments of tenderness, brittleness and defenselessness. They require care, proper conditions and attention. And what other choice had a woman soldier when, for example as with Ol'ga Fedotovna Ishchenko of Krivoy Rog with four children at the table and not a crumb of bread in her larder, nothing but proteins and vitamins obtained with ration cards. She had no choice but to share some of her own meager ration, give comfort to her children with mother's warmth and cry her bitter tears.

And meanwhile the children grew and matured. They caught colds, and they fell ill, they helped and sometimes they were disobedient, but they grew and became strong. Before them they saw the most persuasive and strongest example, a mother's example of diligence, endurance and generosity. And they absorbed from it, as from a spring, into their spirit, into their habits, into their character and into their fate. Ol'ga Fedotovna raised the four young boys well; All four are laborers. Aleksandr and Andrey are fitters, and Anatoliy and Ivan are drivers. All served their time in the army, and the commander sent letters of gratefulness for each of them to their mother--this means that they were exemplary soldiers. And now, taking care of her grandchildren, Ol'ga Fedotovna sees before her, as in a dream, her husband who never returned from the war, Dem'yan Yefimovich, and she distinctly hears the parting instructions with which he ended each of his letters from the front: Take care of the children, mother, bring them up to be worthy people.

All frontline soldiers wrote such orders. And all woman soldiers fulfilled them as the most sacred commandments. With the help of the state they prepared a good generation of laborers and soldiers to take the places of their husbands. We can see this today in all of its obviousness. Those who were from two to five at the start of the war are now in their forties. This is a time of peak creative effort. These are people with fully determined fates--steelmakers and tractor operators, physicians and teachers, generals and ministers. Many of them grew up without their fathers, who never returned from the war. They will remember the lessons of their mothers to their last days. And they pay their respects to them on bended knees with heads bowed to the ground. They are thankful for the love, for the bravery, for the kindness, for the faithfulness to ideals.

And to them, the mothers, the gratefulness of sons and daughters is the highest reward.

"I live alone in an apartment," said Yekaterina Yakovlevna Shvydkaya, the widow of a lieutenant colonel, "but I never feel alone. My son Sergey visits me every day and does all sorts of things around the house to help out. The military commissariat does not forget me--they visit, and they write."

Examining the records of pensioner Ye. Ya. Shvydkaya at the military commissariat, I turned my attention to some notes consisting of incomprehensible shorthand. I asked what it meant. It was a note stating that a greeting card had been sent for the holiday. This may appear to be nothing more than part of a bureaucratic routine, but it may also be perceived as fully proper carefulness. In any case the widows of deceased soldiers residing in Zhovtnevskiy rayon of Krivoy Rog receive holiday greetings from the military commissariat, and they place a high value on such attention toward them, in contrast to the situation of those living in some other cities and rayons.

Soldiers' widows in Krivoy Rog have good things to say about many of the workers of the military commissariats and social welfare divisions--Glafira Sergeyevna Turshakova, Valentina Mikhaylovna Lyubchenko and Vera Yefimovna Kovtun. No matter what sort of question the widow of a deceased soldier asks of these people, she always encounters a real preparedness to help. Sometimes the help they need is not much at all: to repair a faucet, to whitewash the kitchen, though to an old, ill individual this could turn into a big problem without help from outside. Sometimes it takes just a kind word, a tender smile, a sense of participation and sympathetic words to cause a soldier's widow to take pen in hand and write to the editor about her gratefulness to the responsive people:

"I receive a pension for my husband, who died in the war, from the Oktyabr'skiy Rayon Military Commissariat of the city of Belgorod," writes Natal'ya Andreyevna Shekhovtsova. "The people that work there are so fabulous and attentive! Fedor Arsen'yevich Kuts and Geroida Nikonovna Dudareva treat us the pensioners with sincere respect, they try to understand all of our needs, and they create an atmosphere of warmth and adoration about us."

Natal'ya Andreyevna has good reason to write about this atmosphere--it is something toward which elderly people are very sensitive. To those who have become accustomed to all of the adversities of their hard lives but who never blackened their honor, any sign of disrespect is highly painful. When I once went with a representative from the rayon welfare office to visit one of the soldier's widows in Krivoy Rog and asked how things were going for her, whether she had any complaints, she wept bitterly, and nodding her head in the direction of her daughter, who was talking on the telephone, she uttered barely audibly through her tears:

"She insults me, she yells at me...."

This pensioner had everything one would need in old age, except for deserved peace. And it was not easy to help her--it was a delicate issue, a family issue. Whether or not this daughter would correctly understand what we told her and whether or not the nature of her relationship toward her mother would change, we cannot of course say with full certainty. At such times we need to count on conscience, on a daughter's feelings, on an understanding of a sense of duty to one's mother, one who contributed all her strength to the motherland and her children.

With every year the attention devoted to families of soldiers who had died on the front is growing in our country. It would be sufficient to recall in this

connection the 26 May 1980 decree of the USSR Council of Ministers, which deemed it suitable to award a pension to the wives of servicemen who had died on the front on the occasion of the loss of a breadwinner irrespective of whether they had been dependents of the deceased serviceman and irrespective of whether they had attained retirement age or the qualifying age for disability assistance. Many thousands of widows were thus granted the right to receive a pension for a deceased husband.

A little more than 2 years have passed since that decree was published. Most widows who were granted this right have now been exercising it for a long time--that is, they are receiving their allotted pensions. But there are also those who are ignorant of this new law. There are widows who do not have the documents required for the granting of a pension. Help them we must, immediately and energetically! Who specifically? The workers of the military commissariats, the social welfare offices, the archives and the civil registry offices. But different kinds of people work in these organs....

Anna Grigor'yevna Pankratova of Chuguyevskiy Rayon, Kharkov Oblast writes tearful letters to various authorities explaining she has no death certificate for her husband, who died from his wounds, she names the battle in which he was mortally wounded and the hospital in which he was treated, and she names the people who could confirm all of this. And it was not until recently, after the editor's office of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA made some inquiries, that the oblast military commissariat instructed the rayon military commissar as to what he should do. In such a situation, is there really a need to wait for instructions?

As we know, every transaction involves people. And it is precisely upon the individual, upon every official having a relationship to a transaction that realization of legal and moral norms defining the status of soldiers' widows in our society depends. In many rayons of the country local possibilities are being utilized to further improve their material and personal conditions. In a number of Ukrainian oblasts, for example Kirovograd, Cherkassy and Krymsk, a good custom of paying solemn homage to soldiers' widows is regularly practiced, and they are paid supplements to their pensions at the expense of kolkhozes. They are also given all-possible assistance in household affairs--their homes are repaired free of charge, fuel is delivered to them, and their gardens are worked. But unfortunately, things are not like this everywhere.

Here is what was written to the editor's office by Petr Ivanovich Bashakov from the town of Dolmatovo in North Kazakhstan Oblast:

"I live next door to a pensioner, Yefrosin'ya Otradnykh, whose husband died at the front. During the war Yefrosin'ya worked hard, and she did everything there was to do at the kolkhoz. One would think that such people must not be forgotten, that they must be helped. But Yefrosin'ya is living in a dilapidated hut with a roof that leaks even with moderate rain, since it is no longer covered with sod.... Yefrosin'ya does not ask for help, she is embarrassed. But her hut stands on the main street traveled every day by the kolkhoz chairman, the party committee secretary and the chairman of the town soviet. They drive by, and they pay no attention to the desperate appearance of the little hut, they do not ask how the pensioner is doing, and they do not inquire of the widow of the deceased soldier as to what sort of help she might need."

Aksin'ya Iosifovna Burlachenko, the widow of a deceased soldier who lives in the town of Maryanovka in Dnepropetrovsk Oblast, does not experience any greater tactfulness. She has difficulties getting fuel, the roof of her home leaks, and she could get her garden plowed only if she paid for it.

I spoke about this to the secretary of the town soviet's party organization, Valentina Ivanovna Revutskaya. She assured me that they would order roofing shingles for the widow this year, and that they would provide her with fuel. According to her, however, the were objective difficulties in the way of plowing her garden--the sovkhoz did not have enough equipment.

Can we accept this explanation seriously?

What is lacking is not the equipment but an elementary understanding of duty. What is lacking is something as basic as the desire to condemn a self-seeker who would dare to accept money from a soldier's widow to plow a garden with a sovkhoz tractor.

Unfortunately, the local government organs, farm directors and social organizations of some oblasts and rayons still display rare and timid initiative in improving the life of the families of deceased soldiers. It is as if such organizations are not fully sure of their right to provide such help. For example medical services are not extended to soldiers' widows everywhere. And after all, this is what they need most these days.

They are not always cheered up with holiday greetings and gifts, with invitations to shop at the stores servicing war invalids. Timurov Pioneers have become rare visitors of widows and mothers of deceased soldiers in some places. They do not ask if they can help around the house or weed a garden row.

And they, the woman soldiers, merit not only our attention but also our homage.

Follow-Up Report on Soldiers' Widows Article

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Nov 82 p 4

[Article: "Soldiers' Widows"]

[Text] "Soldiers' Widows" was the title of an article by Lieutenant Colonel A. Khorev published 18 July. It discussed the continued increase in the public's attention to the families of deceased soldiers, and it brought up some cases of an inconsiderate attitude toward their needs. The editor's office received several local responses to this article.

Comrade V. Paramonov, secretary of the Kharkov Oblast Committee of the Ukrainian SSR Communist Party, communicated that the article was examined by the Chuguyev City Committee of the Ukrainian SSR Communist Party and by the oblast military commissariat. The criticism addressed toward them was recognized to be correct. Steps were taken to improve work with the families of deceased soldiers and to examine letters and proposals from the laborers.

Comrade V. Stepanov, secretary of the North Kazakhstan Oblast Committee of the Kazakh SSR Communist Party, informed the editor's office that Ye. Otradnykh--the widow of the serviceman that had died at the front whose poor living conditions were discussed in the article--was allocated a two-room cottage next door to her son by the kolkhoz board of directors. Now her son's family is providing the daily care she needs.

Comrade A. Mironenko, secretary of the Dnepropetrovsk Oblast Committee of the Ukrainian SSR Communist Party, reported that the article "Soldiers' Widows" was discussed in the oblast military commissariat and at a meeting convened by Comrade P. Velichko, deputy chairman of the executive committee of the oblast soviet of people's deputies. It was noted that in the last few years the services provided by the oblast to families of deceased soldiers have improved, and that their needs and demands are being satisfied better. They are being given assistance in repairing their housing and in obtaining fuel. Trade organizations are now making home deliveries to persons living alone and to the elderly. Medical services are improving. The necessary steps were taken in response to the inattentive attitude displayed toward the needs of soldier's widow A. Burlachenko, indicated in the article: The roof of her home was re-shingled, fuel was brought in, and her garden was plowed. The issue of improving the material and personal conditions of the wives and mothers of deceased soldiers further was examined at a meeting of the executive committee of the oblast soviet of people's deputies.

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GROUND FORCES

TANKMEN'S DAY: MATERIAL FOR TALKS AND REPORTS

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 15, Aug 82 (signed to press 19 Jul 82) pp 26-30

[Article: "The Fatherland's Armored Shield"]

[Excerpts] In 1946, in commemorating the outstanding services of the Soviet armored troops and tank builders in the Great Patriotic War, Tankmen's Day was established by the Ukaze of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. Since that time, each year the motherland ceremoniously honors its loyal sons on the second Sunday of September--the tankmen of the present generation, veterans of tank units and large units, the creators of Soviet armored equipment--all those who are giving their knowledge and their labor to the noble cause of strengthening the combat might of one of the main combat arms of the Soviet Armed Forces.

This year, the 60th anniversary of the formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the traditional holiday of the tankmen is being marked on 12 September in an atmosphere of the tremendous political and labor enthusiasm in the country caused by the decisions of the May (1982) plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the widely initiated preparations for the glorious jubilee of the first single unified multinational state of workers and peasants in the world. Ardent patriots of their motherland, the Soviet people are giving all their strength and energy to the accomplishment and overaccomplishment of the assignments of the second year of the 11th Five-Year Plan and the implementation of the historic designs of the Leninist Party's 26th Congress.

The defenders of the socialist fatherland are living with the interests and thoughts in common with their people. The tankmen, just as all personnel of our valiant Armed Forces, are standing vigilant guard over the peaceful labor of the builders of communism and the achievements of socialism. They are stubbornly struggling for the attainment of high indices in combat and political training and are doing everything to maintain the combat readiness of the units and large units at the level of contemporary requirements.

The Soviet tank troops have covered a glorious and heroic path in their development. The history of their birth and combat improvement is inseparably linked with the activity of the Communist Party and with the name of V. I. Lenin.

[Portion translated pertained to history and activity of Soviet armored forces from 1918 up to the end of World War II.]

Love for the Soviet fatherland and a burning hatred for its enemies and loyalty to the cause of communism in the war years gave birth to the mass heroism of the Soviet servicemen which was unprecedented in history. The communists and Komsomols were in the first ranks of the frontline fighters. By their personal example of bravery and valor, steadfastness, and selflessness, they inspired their comrades in arms to soldierly exploits. The motherland noted in a worthy manner the heroism of the Soviet servicemen, among whom were also many tankmen. Hundreds of thousands of soldiers, sergeants, officers, and generals were awarded orders and medals, and more than 1,100 of them were awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union. And 16 tankmen who were the bravest of the brave were awarded this lofty title twice. Many tank and mechanized units and large units earned combat orders, honorable designations, and Guards titles. By the end of the war all 6 tank armies, 12 tank and 9 mechanized corps, and about half the tank and 28 mechanized brigades which participated in battles became Guards.

Concluding the Great Patriotic War victoriously, the Soviet people under the leadership of the Communist Party continued peaceful construction and achieved grandiose successes during past years in the creation of the material and technical base for communism. The economic and defense potential of our state and its international authority grew immeasurably. Conducting a peace-loving Leninist foreign policy, our party and the Soviet people are displaying concern for the strengthening of the country's defensive might.

Recently, the international situation has been sharply aggravated through the fault of the imperialist states. The leaders of the United States and several other NATO countries are continuing an unrestrained arms race under the false pretext of a "Soviet military threat," are striving to attain military superiority over the Soviet Union, and are carrying out provocations against socialist and other peace-loving countries.

The only response to the insidious intrigues of the aggressive forces of imperialism and its accomplices can be a further increase in the vigilance of the Soviet people and strengthening the motherland's defensive capability. "In order for our creative plans to be realized, we need to preserve peace," stressed Comrade L. I. Brezhnev at the May (1982) plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. "Therefore, we will maintain the country's defensive capability at the proper level and will persistently and purposefully continue the struggle for the relaxation of international tension--detente, both political and military."

Being concerned about the country's security the Communist Party, the Soviet Government, and our entire people are devoting daily attention to raising the combat potential of the valiant Soviet Armed Forces.

In the postwar years, our army and navy marched far forward in their development on the basis of the achievements of the socialist economy, science, and technology and as a result of the selfless labor of workers, engineers, designers, and scientists.

The tank troops also rose to a qualitatively new stage in combat improvement. They are retaining for themselves the role of mighty shock force of the Ground Troops. Contemporary Soviet tanks have excellent armament, reliable protection against various means of destruction, high speed and trafficability, and a large radius of

action. Observation and fire-control instruments permit driving the tanks under any terrain and weather conditions and hitting the targets with limited visibility and at night. The tanks are adapted for the conduct of combat operations with the employment of conventional weapons as well as under conditions where nuclear missiles are used.

However, the combat power of the tank troops is determined primarily by the people who command the formidable combat equipment. Just as all the defenders of the socialist motherland, the tankmen are flaming patriot-internationalists and loyal sons of the fatherland. They sacredly revere and are multiplying in every possible way the heroic traditions of the frontline fighters. The level of general educational and technical training permits the men of the 1980's to master combat specialties in a short time, operate as part of a crew smoothly, drive combat vehicles confidently, and conduct accurate fire. They see as their sacred duty accomplishing with honor the missions assigned by the 26th CPSU Congress, the reliable defense of the socialist motherland, and being in constant combat readiness which guarantees a crushing rebuff for any aggressor.

The Soviet tankmen are marking their traditional holiday with high achievements in soldierly labor. In these strained days of summer combat training they, just as all personnel of our Armed Forces, are persistently improving combat skill, stubbornly improving field training, and assiduously mastering the science of winning which was forged in battles for the motherland. A tested means for raising the activity and initiative of the soldiers, sergeants, warrant officers [praporshchik], and officers in the struggle for the high quality of combat training is socialist competition in honor of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR under the slogan, "Reliable protection for the peaceful labor of the Soviet people!" It exerts a stimulating influence on all aspects of the training-indoctrinational process and furthers the successful accomplishment of the plans for combat and political training and the exemplary accomplishment of the missions assigned by the party and the Soviet Minister of Defense.

The men of the Guards Tank Novgorodsko-Berlin Regiment--one of the best regiments in the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany which became renowned in battles for the motherland--are moving confidently in the vanguard of the socialist competition. The clear rhythm of combat training and service, effective competition for the skillful mastery of equipment and weapons, and objective political and organizational work of the commander and party and Komsomol organizations form the basis of the collective's stable successes. Many tank commanders and gunners learned to hit the targets with the first round or first burst at maximum ranges, and complete interchangeability has been attained in all crews. The tankmen are confidently accomplishing training combat missions and achieved a reduction in the times for bringing all subunits and the regiment as a whole to combat readiness.

The personnel of many other tank regiments have also attained high results in combat and political training and in the accomplishment of socialist obligations. The present generation of servicemen is carefully preserving and multiplying the traditions of their brother-soldiers. Commanders, political officers, and party and Komsomol organizations are skillfully using the wealth of combat experience of the frontline fighters in the interests of the training and indoctrination of the men and the molding in them of high combat and moral-political qualities and firm skills in the art of conducting contemporary combined-arms combat.

The tankmen and all the men of the Soviet Armed Forces realize well their responsibility for the defense of socialism's achievements. They do not forget for a minute the insidious intrigues of the imperialist aggressors and they always keep their powder dry. Closely rallied around the Communist Party and boundlessly devoted to the sacred ideals of communism, the armed defenders of the motherland are always ready to accomplish their patriotic and international duty with honor.

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GROUND FORCES

MOUNTAIN TRAINING IN MOTORIZED RIFLE REGIMENT DESCRIBED

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 15, Aug 82 (signed to press 19 Jul 82) pp 31-36

[Article by Lt Col V. Lokhov, regimental political officer: "Be on Familiar Terms With the Mountains"]

[Text] Literally minutes--and the steep, exhausting climb will be behind us. One more effort, one more triumphant dash! The offensive spirit of the motorized riflemen, who realize that the result of this exercise will be entered in the collective's report on the accomplishment of the socialist obligations assumed in honor of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR, is high.

But suddenly a new special situation arrives: the "enemy" has begun a frontal counterattack with reserves which have been brought forward. What will the commander's decision be? Perhaps a maneuver? No. Unpassable sectors are on the left and on the right. And really, time will be lost, precious time.

The order follows: repel the "enemy's" surprise counterattack by the fire of all forces and weapons and take the planned position from the march. This means that it is up to the gunners. If they are able to destroy all targets accurately, the danger which suddenly arose will be eliminated and success will be attained.

Sergeant A. Syrovatskiy is in one of the combat vehicles of the advancing subunit. Pressing against the sight eyepiece, without waiting for a short halt for firing he had already "felt" the mountain glade. As soon as the target appeared the trained hands began to work in the same second and the gun barrel moved in the direction of the "enemy" tank.

A short halt.... A round.... A hit!.

The crews of other combat vehicles were firing alongside. Using folds in the terrain skillfully and maneuvering, the driver-mechanics supported the firing. "Enemy" tanks "went out of action" one after the other, and the motorized riflemen inflicted noticeably "damage" on personnel. And his counterattack bogged down.

Here, I should like to make a digression and return to the not too distant past--to the time when we initiated the struggle for high quality of mountain training. Of course, we did not have to start from zero. We had some "mountain" experience: both combat-training operations and the conduct of party-political work. By the way, if

we were already talking about the past, I think it is necessary to dwell first of all on a tactical exercise with live firing--our genuinely serious and thorough test of strength in mountain training. Commanders, the party political apparatus, and all personnel prepared for these collective training-combat actions ahead of time and thoroughly. A plan for party-political work was prepared where special attention was paid to the placement of activists with the task of embracing the personnel in political influence right down to the squad. In which regard this, as was decided at a meeting of the unit party committee, mandatorily. Because under mountain conditions each of the subunits could find itself isolated at any moment and would have to operate independently.

According to the plan for party-political work many measures were conducted which attuned the people to a difficult test. For example, such as those which helped in studying the work procedures of the best specialists and in the generalization and dissemination of the experience of the officers and warrant officers--participants in "battles" under the conditions of mountain-desert and mountain-forest terrain. Talks with the personnel which were structured in accordance with the "question-answer" principle also played a role. In talking with the men officers A. Yushmanov, S. Gorbachev, and S. Skotnikov and Komsomol activist Warrant Officer [praporshchik] . Popovich related much that was useful and interesting about the special features of operations in mountains and about how success is attained under conditions of altitude and large physical overloads.

In mountain training, on the eve of the exercise main stress was placed on all planned lessons. With consideration of these corrections which were introduced by the unit commander in the organization of the training, the party and Komsomol committees instructed the activists on the special features of work on the lessons. In the subunits, each day of combat training was analyzed and the political officers and activists summed up the results of their labor and looked for new points for the application of force. The collective received a good overall grade for the exercise.

Thus, after the summing up of the results of the training-combat operations we had every reason for optimism: a good grade means that we are on the right path. Now, as they say, multiply ability, improve skill, move ahead.

And nevertheless, first of all we tried to extract lessons from the exercise. Here, we should give their due to the unit commander and the members of the party committee who managed to create in our party collective an atmosphere of efficiency, of a creative search, and of dissatisfaction with what had already been done. We began by drawing up, as I call it, a plan for the realization of critical remarks. It included the remarks of the representatives of higher headquarters, "bottlenecks" disclosed on the critique, and criticism and suggestions expressed by communists during an analysis of party-political work at a session of the party committee and party meetings in the subunits. The essence of this plan was reduced to three points: the attainment of clear interaction in the infantry combat vehicles [ICV], raising the quality of training of the young driver-mechanics, and developing physical endurance in the men. I should like to tell about them in sequence.

Thus, the attainment of interaction in the ICV crews. True, in the course of the exercise we had no "punctures" here. But nevertheless, there were many difficulties in this matter and surprises lay in wait at every step as happened recently, for example, under the rainy sky of the mountain training ground.

The first run, the second.... And two failures one after the other. The battalion political officer, Captain V. Dzivaltovskiy, who was present at the lesson on firing training, saw well that these misses could be justified by the drizzling rain which, at the ground together with the fog, clouded and blurred everything ahead. "The conditions are very poor. Really, the sights--looking into the gray mass of rain, forest, and mountains until the eyes ache," the political deputy thought, "they are certainly sweating, finally reducing all the efforts of the gunners to naught."

While the next, also not quite successful run took place, Captain V. Dzivaltovskiy set out for the lesson director. And the alarmed officers together pondered over the situation which had developed. The company commander timidly proposed: perhaps the lesson can be stopped until the weather improves. In this way, of course, there is less risk that the overall grade for the accomplishment of the firing exercise would prove to be low....

"We will continue the firing," said Dzivaltovskiy firmly. "Even if the overall result is no cause for joy, in return we will properly investigate all difficulties and will look for the way to combat them. Only here, on the next run, I think we should let one of the experienced gunners fire. Let him teach them all."

The selection of the officers fell upon Sergeant Aleksandr Syrovatskiy. In his company, and really in the battalion, this Komsomol proved himself to be a genuine master in the conduct of fire. But nevertheless, before the run the political deputy decided to speak with the sergeant.

"Light filter.... Shutter.... And don't breathe," bending the fingers on the hand, Captain V. Dzivaltovskiy gave clear advice.

From the side, such a conversation is not clear to everyone. Certain scraps of words. And what does "don't breathe" mean? But it had its context for those who spoke: change the light filter on the sight based on cloudy weather, rubbing it dry ahead of time, cover it with the shutter until the moment that the driver-mechanic makes a short halt for the shot. "Don't breathe"--protect the sight lens from his own breath.

And so, the run. The seconds of the firing standard seemed very long to the political deputy. Probably, due to the suddenly approaching excitement and alarm, not everything may turn out for the experienced gunner, either.... But here the combat vehicle is at the line of departure. A comparison of the data from the return information panel and the stopwatch added up to a good grade.

"Well, how about it?" the political officer asked the gunner.

"Visibility poor--this is so," answered Syrovatskiy. "But the greater difficulty was something different--the difficulty of short halts on upgrades and downgrades. We stopped long for the shot. The driver-mechanic and I will get a four, and not a five, just because of this."

Dzivaltovskiy's thought worked quickly: "It is slippery on the upgrades and downgrades. This means that here a large part of the matter is in the hands of the

driver-mechanics...." And already after several minutes, he assembled all the motorized riflemen who were free from firing and let Sergeant A. Syrovatskiy speak. The latter began with the conclusion:

"We can fire!"

Next, the discussion concerned the special features of the run, recalling that the sight shutter should be kept closed. The gunner also reached the main difficulty--the complexity of short halts for firing. Having mastered well the allied speciality of driver-mechanic, Syrovatskiy managed to explain that on slippery ground it is best to apply the brakes smoothly, without disengaging the transmission and first having reduced speed. Are precious seconds of normative time spent on this? Yes, they are spent. But no more than in the case where the ICV, being braked sharply, begins to slide and then, receiving jolts on the pits and bumps, it will swing, hindering aiming.

The gunner-operators who had already fired agreed with Sergeant A. Syrovatskiy amicably. Having listened attentively to their comrade, they now also saw one of the reasons for their failure in the difficulty of short halts. And really the driver-mechanics, who usually do not receive the claims of the gunners lightly, nodded their heads affirmatively this time: we are also at fault here, too....

In short, everyone thought during these minutes. Someone amplified Syrovatskiy's opinion and someone proposed his own version of action. And later new runs followed. And the return information panel began to put out favorable readings, while the stopwatch began to record a shorter time.

Thus, an exchange of experience organized by the political officer took place on the mountain training ground. It was not planned, not foreseen ahead of time. Yes, most likely if talk turned on it, they would call it something quite different. Of course, the matter is not in the name. The main thing, in my view, is that they do not forget about the ICV's which "began to slide" on the upgrades and downgrades the next day or in a week. Here, the credit goes first of all to the battalion political officer, Captain V. Dzivaltovskiy. Together with the company commander who directed the lesson on firing training, the political officer discerned a problem behind what would seem to be an insignificant case. And literally in days, the experience of Sergeant A. Syrovatskiy and the men of the subunit where this Komsomol serves became the property of the personnel of the entire unit. The party and Komsomol activists accomplished this efficiently and the wall newspapers of the subunits displayed combat vitality.

Here the reader may ask me: why such details in a story about the difficulty in firing? On the one hand, I wanted to show that there are no petty details in mountain training. But there is another aspect which is no less important. It is in the fact that in this case everything could have been different. The motorized riflemen could have investigated the reasons for the misses, eliminated them on the sly, fired, and settled down. And the next day another company, as they say, would have reinvented the wheel. So here the party evaluation of such "petty details" is important. So that shortcomings in the neighboring subunit are not someone else's shortcomings but would seem to be their own, so that they taught others common sense.

Completing the talk about interaction in ICV crews, I will dwell on one more point. Prior to the tactical exercise in the mountains, we posed questions of gunnery training somewhat separate from the tasks which are accomplished by the driver-mechanics. Really, the exercise here did not accomplish any revolution, it only forced people to think. The experience of the best gunners in the unit--the personnel of the company commanded by Senior Lieutenant V. Dorokhin--served as the stimulus for a new approach to the matter. By the way, a few words about this communist. One day, I had the occasion to see how the officer worked on the eve of a lesson in gunnery training...with the driver-mechanics. To the question: "Why with them and not with the ICV gunner-operators?" Dorokhin answered:

"On the last lesson, the majority of the minuses were given namely by the driver-mechanics. They did not support the firing. So we are analyzing and thinking together. And the secretary of the subunit party organization, Captain V. Snegirev, is talking with the gunner-operators and informing them about the experience of the best gunners."

And now, let us return to our plan for the realization of the critical remarks; by the logic of things, let us dwell on the question of raising the quality of training of the young driver-mechanics. In the mountains, firm skills in control, special discipline, high moral-psychological preparation, and initiative are required from them to the same degree as from experienced specialists. On the exercise, in general such qualities were discovered in the majority of the driver-mechanics. But it was just about necessary to lead the newcomers by the hand. And it was frightful for them and they did not have enough skill. This was not considered sufficiently completely even in the company of communist Captain D. Niaskin, one of the best in the unit for driving.

Here, of course, one can say: Newcomers--yes, they are newcomers and are still learning. Is it so simple? I think not. Each of them has behind him the training subunit plus several months of strained combat training. This means that they have already served a lot. Evidently, they did not work with each one sufficiently, the commander overlooked something, and the activists stood aside. All the more since it is easy to overlook something. For example, an exchange of experiences took place in the subunit and at this time the young driver-mechanic was on detail. Later, perhaps, he took sick and did not take part in drill or driving....

The company commander is not always able to keep an eye on each soldier. In return, this is fully within the capability of the platoon and squad leaders, the Komsomol group organizers, and those whose matters and concerns are a little fewer. Keeping all young specialists in their field of view, they are completely capable of solving the problem of where and when it is best to place that driver-mechanic on detail. Who needs assistance more than others and in what is also better seen by the junior commanders and Komsomol group organizers. These and similar meditations by the members of the party committee found their concrete definition in the agendas of party and Komsomol meetings and in the work of the battalion and company political officers.

Together with the commanders, the political officers and activists also registered each young specialist and attracted the men to the competition for a high level of mountain training and to technical study groups.

Did the level of training of the young driver-mechanics change for the better in our "between-season" (the period between two tactical exercises with live firing)? I think so. In Captain D. Niaskin's company, for example, no one is called newcomer any longer. Both the commander and the men say that the young soldiers are not inferior to their senior comrades in the quality of driving.

The soldier needs physical tempering and endurance always and everywhere. This is the truth. But let me add: he needs them twice as much in the mountains. Did we consider this did we work with such vigor prior to the tactical exercise? Of course we worked but, let me say directly, the task was posed somewhat generally: it is necessary, they say, to raise the quality of physical training, to devote more attention to the methods in it.... But the exercise showed that we have many holes here. For example, overcoming a steep mountain rise. Overrating their strength, some soldiers were so fatigued by the moment of "battle" that they would have been of little use had there been hand-to-hand combat.

They did not begin to announce for all to hear that our physical training is poor. They decided first to investigate properly and to look for reserves. And they found them. For example, in the fact that during trips out to the mountain training ground the scout's path which is there is rarely used. This time, the initiative came from the subunits, from their activists. In particular, from the party organization of the subunit commanded by Major S. Aksenenko. The communists helped the commander to mobilize the men for intensive training. Conducting the lesson on gunnery training on a high methodological level and saving some time, the motorized riflemen passed along the scout's mountain path and received a good physical load.

In speaking of the personnel's physical training and the necessity to increase the endurance of the men, in my view we cannot lose sight of drills along the way. All the more since we sometimes forget about them. This pertains especially to the commanders of companies, platoons, and squads.

Thus, the scout's mountain path and drills along the way are obvious reserves for raising the physical endurance of the personnel. Their constant and creative use were taken under unremitting monitoring by the unit commander, and the party organization sees that the communists are an example of initiative and efficiency. But nevertheless, these two directions are only a part of the possibilities because they can get to the scout's path only when moving out to the mountain training ground. Consequently, the increase in the men's physical endurance should be undertaken in daily life. Here, except for planned lessons, morning calisthenics, and sports competitions on days off, it would appear, nothing more is devised. Is this so? For there are also individual tempering, sports sections, and sports study groups and there is the work of unofficial sports organizers of the subunits. How to improve the activity of these elements--this is what the commanders of companies and platoons and the party and Komsomol activists should be concerned about.

In mountain training just as, in fact, in all combat training great significance in the attainment of success is had by correctly organized and continuously conducted party-political work. Of course, we do not have everything going smoothly in it and we do not get by without problems. They are present. I will dwell briefly on one of them.

While working out training-combat missions and standards under conditions of mountain-forest terrain, the separation of the subunits cannot be avoided. If, for example, a platoon proves to be such a subunit, then all ideological-indoctrinational work lies on the shoulders of the lower activists. And it should be said that all our activists did not learn to cope with the tasks facing them at once. What way out of this situation did we find? First, we improved the quality of training and instruction of party-Komsomol activists. Second, we began to use communists from among the conscript soldiers more widely in ideological-indoctrinational work. Third, with consideration of the specific nature of the personnel's actions we began to introduce changes in the organization and conduct of socialist competition.

In the period of preparation for the exercise and in the course of it, some of the young commanders, political officers, communists, and Komsomol activists understood this question in a somewhat simplified manner: in supplementing the obligations assumed in honor of the jubilee of the formation of the USSR, the men gave their word to accomplish all tasks on this specific exercise with grades of excellent and good--and this means that everything is in order. This erroneous opinion had to be corrected supported by specific facts, and it had to be shown that the striving of the motorized riflemen to display steadfastness, endurance, and sharpness of wit and to render comradely mutual assistance should find reflection in their individual obligations. These questions were examined at a conference with the subunit commanders and political officers and at seminars of party and Komsomol activists.

And this is everything that I wanted to say about mountain training and the problems which arise in the course of it, on the solution of which we worked in the period between tactical exercises with live firing. Did we solve them? The answer to this question can be given only by the mountains, by how the men of the unit shoot and drive the equipment on their steep slopes today.

...Behind are the successfully repelled "enemy" counterattack and the "battle" in the depth of his defense. But a short halt is not only for rest. The commanders sum up the results of the competition and the motorized riflemen share recent impressions and recall their every shot and each maneuver with ardor. Among them are political officers and party and Komsomol activists. An especially large group of men assembled at one of the Lenin corners. They were all attracted by an operational news sheet with the heading, "Every round--in the target!"

This is about Sergeant A. Syrovatskiy who destroyed three targets with three rounds and exceeded the firing standards.

"Look, and here is his photograph!" exclaimed one of the motorized riflemen. "What a dashing one...!"

Observing all this, the battalion political officer, Captain V. Dzivaltovskiy, fairly smiled. Good fellows, activists! They showed the gunner well. They even found a photograph....

And a special situation arrives again. In accordance with it--a swift march and a new "battle." The motorized riflemen go forward confidently. They overcame the difficult path to success when they planned to come here, when they instilled in

themselves organization, will, and endurance, and learned the ability to fight in the mountains just as resolutely as on the plain. And really, even now it is not easy. But many men now have the ability, experience, and knack; they are helping their junior comrades to master the skill.

In our unit, when the talk turns to mountain training, one can hear more and more often the sentence: "One must be on familiar terms with the mountains." For in the mountains only those win who go into them armed with thorough knowledge and skill and spiritually and physically tempered.

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NAVAL FORCES

NAVAL TRAINING DISCUSSED

Problems in Training On-Board Specialists

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Sep 82 p 2

[Article by Capt 3d Rank V. Mel'nikov and commentary by Red Banner Black Sea Fleet deputy chief of staff Rear Adm A. Gorshkolepov: "On Certain Problems of Training Highly Rated Specialists Aboard Ships: The Master's Authority"]

[Text] The cruiser approached the given area. It was a matter of minutes before the firing was to occur. Reports on readiness of the seamen, weapons and equipment for the practice action went from the battle stations to the control center. The commanding officer of the cruiser and staff officers aboard her were counting on success, and not without grounds--there were many masters in the missile-gunnery department (BCh-2). Officer V. Volk, the subunit commander, also had this highest qualification.

But at the moment firing took place the operator, WO [michman] V. Tuyev, who held the title of master of military affairs, committed a crude error in determining the bearing to target. Officer Volk or the commander of the division which was firing could have detected the mistake and corrected it in time, but they were so confident of the experienced operator's high level of training that even when doubts arose as to the bearing's accuracy no one interfered in the warrant officer's work: The master knows what he is doing. In the final account the crew's grade was lowered for the firing.

The thorough inspection revealed serious shortcomings in the training and schooling of masters aboard the ship. WO Tuyev was stripped of the title of master. As an analysis showed, the qualifications of the BCh-2 officers also did not meet the demands being placed on masters. The unit staff had to work much to correct the state of affairs aboard the cruiser.

This was relatively long ago, but the episode is remembered not only in unit "X," but also in the fleet as a whole. Often it is cited as an example at conferences when the talk turns to criteria in evaluating the training quality of shipboard specialists.

Master is the highest combat qualification which an officer or warrant officer [michman and praporshchik] can attain. The overwhelming majority of

commanders and staffs show constant concern for an increase in the ranks of masters. This essentially is concern over the most important element--high combat readiness. The confident hand of true masters shows up in accurate missile strikes and in torpedo and gun salvos. It is they, the masters, who are the creators of foremost experience and innovators of effective weapons employment.

The training of masters is on a planned basis aboard the ASW cruiser "Moskva." There now are 29 of them here, serving in various departments and representing leading specialties. During attacks and in standing underway watches they demonstrate models of competent equipment operation, precise execution and tactical proficiency. There was a great contribution by the masters in the fact that the cruiser's crew successfully accomplished all training missions of a long deployment in the Mediterranean, skillfully conducted the search for "enemy" submarines and hit air and waterborne targets in a sniperlike fashion.

Nevertheless, specialists still are encountered in some subunits who do not justify the high qualification conferred on them by real, masterful combat work. It is said of them that they are masters in words--before the practice action and before the first demanding check by action. There is something to ponder here.

As it is generally known, candidates for preparations to take tests for the title of master aboard ships and in units must be chosen from the best officers and warrant officers [michman] who are first class specialists. Every commander is interested in having the greatest possible number of specialists with the highest qualification aboard ship, since to a certain extent this indicator is used to judge the progress of training and competition. And some officers give in to the temptation of easy success. They become wrapped up in pursuit of quantitative indicators and reduce demands in selecting master candidates. In such cases people with deficiencies in special training and in personal conduct end up among the candidates. Having received the title of master by chance, they in reality do not correspond to the combat purpose of a specialist with the highest qualification. Hence the ensure: There are many masters aboard ship, but little benefit from them, and there is no guarantee that none of the "titled" specialists will let the crew down during a missile or torpedo attack.

That is how it was, for example, aboard one of the ships. Soon after taking tests for the title of master warrant officers A. Khovrachev and A. Vorozheykin proved incapable of the demands being placed on them. Both had a negligent attitude toward performing official duties. Khovrachev crudely violated military discipline. Vorozheykin did not develop as a specialist. They were stripped of the title of master.

Sometimes it happens that people do not work with candidates aboard ship or in the unit and their preparation for exams is neglected. They are remembered when a matter of days remains until the exams and it already is impossible to make up for lost time. Then they have to place hopes only on condescension of the qualification commission and a "lucky" card. But there are no miracles. As a rule, the commissions are strict and there usually are no "lucky" cards.

Those who did not make master return to ship and the commander hears their distressing report: "We didn't pass..."

That was the report from many small combatant personnel of subunit "X." There was one explanation of what happened for the majority of "failures" and their superiors: The demands were very strict. But the true reason here is that the subunit took a formal approach to candidate selection and to their preparation. It was a bitter and instructive lesson.

"But that's something," could have been said aboard the large ASW ship "Ochakov." "Out of the entire group of our candidates only one passed the test for master." At one time Capt-Lt P. Krasnov and warrant officers M. Belov, V. Baranov and B. Pristoylo were not able to become masters.

A careful analysis permits discerning the following pattern: Many of those who did not pass the exams failed in two matters--in the knowledge and use of the ship's damage control equipment and in defense against mass destruction weapons. But without a detailed mastery of these matters it is difficult to count on victory in modern combat.

Unfortunately the criticism aboard some ships is limited only to those who did not pass the exams, but no proper analysis is made of what lies behind the fact. That means it is difficult to hope for an improvement in the process of training and indoctrinating future masters of military affairs here. It also cannot be forgotten that when seamen are only reproached with the approach to organization of their training unchanged, they themselves make no attempt to take the exams again. Moreover, other possible master candidates do not pledge to receive the highest qualification. They have no confidence that they will not be awaited by the very same fate. For example, WO N. Lay has had a 1st class for 15 years but makes no attempt to take the test for master. His colleague, WO Ye. Pleskachev, also does not take the risk although he knows the specialty well and for a long while successfully replaced the commander of the minesweeper's engineering subunit.

It would appear that more attention should be given to moral incentives for specialists of the highest qualification. Master badges sometimes are not presented in a ceremonial atmosphere. The "Our Masters" displays are not present everywhere. Not everyone knows the privileges to which these specialists are entitled.

The fleet needs genuine masters whose schooling, discipline and imaginative approach to the performance of official duties meet the demands of modern combat against a strong, technically outfitted enemy. This cannot be forgotten.

At the editors' request Red Banner Black Sea Fleet deputy chief of staff Rear Adm A. Gorshkolepov comments on this report:

The author of the report raises an urgent problem: Ships need masters. Only specialists of the highest qualification are capable of having an outstanding knowledge of the modern ship and her weapons and being able to get everything

from the equipment of which it is capable. There are many of them in our fleet and this is our pride. But there must be even more of them. This is dictated by the interests of a steady increase in combat readiness. It would appear advisable to have in each unit a strictly adjusted plan for developing masters. In our view, a plan for several years may be the most suitable. It will allow taking account of officers' movement to higher positions without reducing the number of masters aboard ship or in the unit, and it will allow selection and preparation of candidates without haste by studying them comprehensively. More precise organizational work and constant supervision over the implementation of plans are necessary. Candidates should be familiarized with the test program no later than a half-year in advance. Consultations and supplementary drills against a difficult tactical background must be conducted with them on a planned, goal-oriented basis and their knowledge and tactical schooling must be tested regularly.

Ship commanding officers organize masters' training together with flag specialists. Success is natural where a maximum of diligence, initiative and imagination is shown. There are few masters or their training does not meet modern demands placed on specialists of the highest qualification where the work is neglected. Today, with all else being equal, it is impossible to consider the work of a staff officer or ship commanding officer successful if they have not prepared the planned number of masters or have prepared them formally, only for a report. Much can be done by the commanders together with party organizations to improve indoctrinational work with those first class specialists who are capable of achieving the goal of master but who unfortunately consider an improvement in qualification to be only their personal matter.

Taking note of the constant improvement in technical outfitting of the Army and Navy in a report at the 5th All-Army Conference of Primary Party Organization Secretaries, USSR Minister of Defense Mar SU D. F. Ustinov emphasized that weapons and combat equipment can produce the proper effect only if they are in capable and reliable hands and if their study and mastery of the methods of tactical employment are combined with a further improvement in field, air and naval schooling of the personnel. That is the main line for training specialists of the highest qualification.

Sr Lt Red-Taped into Reserves

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Oct 82 p 2

[Letter to editors by Sr Lt (Res) V. Pron'kin: "They were Forgotten"]

[Text] After returning to my unit after a brief treatment in the hospital, I learned what was for me surprising news: It turns out I don't serve here anymore. And not only in this unit, but in the Armed Forces in general. After such a blow one can do little more than return to the hospital. I also found out that my comrades in service, senior lieutenants V. Galakhov and A. Penskiy, also had been released to the reserve. I turned to appropriate instances, where I received sympathy but they could not help me. That's what was said in one personnel entity:

"It's too late, friend, the order has been written. 'The train has left'."

But I will tell this story in order.

After completing the Novosibirsk Electrical Engineering Institute I expressed the desire to serve in the Navy. The application was viewed positively and I became an officer in one of the units of the Red Banner Pacific Fleet. I will say frankly that it was very difficult at first. Not everything went smoothly. I did not immediately become accustomed to the precise and strict military procedures, but I and my other comrades called up from the reserve had the desire to join formation as quickly as possible and be of maximum benefit. We became specialists of a high class. Capt 2d Rank A. Sitarskiy, Engr-Maj S. Belovolov and other experienced officers worked with us without regard for time. We were sincerely thankful to the command element, which assigned us good quarters.

I became accustomed to service, fell in love with the Navy and after some time realized that I had found a true road in life. This opinion also was reinforced by our commanders, who advised the officers called up for service from the reserve to remain in the fleet cadres. This meant that we were needed here and that we were of use. When a third little star appeared on the shoulderboards the decision matured once and for all.

I along with Galakhov and Penskiy sought advice in the fleet communications directorate about the procedure for making out necessary documents. Maj A. Mel'nichenko explained that an application had to be submitted before the end of the three-year term of service. After this the unit commander and political officer would talk with us. The applications were submitted, but no one called us in for a talk. We repeatedly went to WO [michman] P. Kitayev in the personnel section, who handled the filling out of our documents.

"Everything's in order, don't worry," he responded.

And then this unexpected news that we were released to the reserve.

Why? We were asked to remain among the regular personnel. No one reproached us for poor service. The reason proved to be ludicrously simple: Our applications took more than three months in going from the unit to the next echelon, although the distance here is ten minutes' travel time.

Lt Col Ye. Yakovlev believes that nothing terrible happened. We can reapply for service through the military commissariat and the unit will 'hold' the previous positions for us. Well then, a solution has been found. But what will all this cost us and our subunits? A reapplication will take more than one month, for it is necessary to go to Novosibirsk, to the military commissariat which made out the call-up for service three years ago. I am afraid that we will forget or lose some of our professional skills, not to mention moral losses: We seemingly served rather well and suddenly were forgotten.

On Officer's Professional Qualities

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Oct 82 p 2

[Article by Vice Adm A. Kalinin, first deputy commander, Twice-Honored Red Banner Baltic Fleet: "An Officer's Professional Qualities: Facets of Independence"]

[Text] Not long ago the ship commanded by Capt 2d Rank A. Yakovenko returned to home base from a long deployment. The navymen had accomplished a number of difficult missions successfully under conditions approximating combat to the maximum. The chief credit for this unquestionably goes to the ship's commanding officer, party member Capt 2d Rank A. Yakovenko, who confidently controlled the crew in all phases of the deployment. But the fact is that he is a very young commander and it was the first time he took the ship on a long deployment in this capacity.

I will not conceal that there were doubts prior to the deployment: Would Yakovenko cope? Shouldn't an officer more experienced in such matters be sent along?

But after a thorough check of the commander's preparation it was decided to entrust him to perform the assignment independently, and Yakovenko bore out the trust. Of course, not everything went swimmingly for him. There was much that was new for the young commander in the difficult deployment, but no matter what difficult problems arose for him, he would mobilize his will and knowledge, boldly take up a search for optimum decisions and as a rule would find them without prompting from the side.

Independence... A commander is simply inconceivable without it. Now, with the Navy's emergence on the expanses of the World Ocean, our ships often operate hundreds and thousands of nautical miles from base, control points and support entities. Under these conditions the officer who has been entrusted with the captain's bridge must be ready for the fact that in resolving the most difficult issues he will have to rely above all on his own tactical horizons and naval schooling, on his own knowledge of weapons and equipment and on his own ability to control the ship and her crew.

The growing importance of a commander's independence is determined by the demands of modern combat. In its dynamic, rapidly changing situation a commander has to be ready at any minute to assume responsibility for accomplishment of difficult missions, and display the ability to think and act under conditions of an extremely rigid time limit and enormous moral-psychological and physical stresses. Speaking at the 6th All-Army Conference of Primary Party Organization Secretaries, USSR Minister of Defense Mar SU D. F. Ustinov named these qualities among those which now are most needed by the military leader.

Independence is shaped over the years in a commander's character. Its development essentially begins with those first steps which a young lieutenant takes when he arrives aboard ship, from the moment he receives the right to

put on the armband of the officer of the watch for the first time, and when the last test for authorization for independent control of a group or battery is behind him. New positions come with the years and each one requires a person to establish himself by concrete deeds and to gain more and more heights of independence. And when the officer finally ascends to the bridge as commander of the ship, the time of the most severe ordeals has arrived for him. Life places daily and hourly demands on a ship's commanding officer: What are you personally capable of? Missions of what complexity can be entrusted to you? What tactics do you have in your store of knowledge? And a worthy response can be given by one who, in working constantly on himself, persistently strives for independence, initiative and a search for new things.

I will return again to the example of Capt 2d Rank A. Yakovenko. I had occasion to see him in action back when he was a subunit commander and executive officer. Even then one was struck by how active the officer was in service, how he tried to have his say and make his own suggestions of initiative in accomplishing any task. Yakovenko purposefully prepared himself for the high command position and for independent control of the ship and this led to the desired result.

It stands to reason that an officer's striving for initiative and independence is successful if it is supported in every way by senior officers and if the unit or combined unit takes a solicitous attitude toward work with young commanders. It is very important to take prompt note of the slightest displays of an individual commander's style and encourage intelligent initiative and attempts to find some kind of unique, nontrite tactics. At the same time it is extremely necessary to show a maximum of patience and tact in those cases where a young commander suffers failure at first.

Our fleet has gained much experience in thoughtful work with command cadres, but there are unfortunately those instances where distortions are allowed in training and indoctrinating officers. For example, this concerns the unit where Capt 3d Rank Yu. Toporovskiy is serving. Here true exactingness at times is replaced with hasty punishments. If you make the slightest mistake you receive punishment. The unit commander and staff officers frequently do not delve deeply into the causes of a person's particular mistakes. The fact is, however, that mistakes vary. It is one thing when irresponsibility and laxity really have been permitted and quite another if an officer attempted to show initiative and tried to approach the solution to some problem in a new way, but erred due to a lack of experience. Superficial evaluations and hasty scoldings can only break a person of making his own bold decisions.

We often say that strict supervision over a young commander is necessary on the part of the flag officer and staff officers, but supervision cannot be transformed into primitive guardianship.

I recall the following instance. A minesweeper which at that time was commanded by Sr Lt A. Kopyl'tsev got into a difficult navigational situation. The commander was required to take bold, vigorous steps in a limited amount of time. Kopyl'tsev knew this but did not venture to make a responsible decision himself. He began to request instructions from the flag officer. As a result the moment for making a competent maneuver was missed.

Just why did the officer act so indecisively? The reason was that the unit commander and staff officers constantly substituted for him during sorties and did not prepare the young commander for independent actions. And so the officer became accustomed to having others always deciding everything for him.

It has to be noted that guardianship and mistrust are displayed in different forms. It is at times as follows: A ship puts to sea and on the bridge next to the commanding officer are a good ten appointed persons from the most varied echelons. And it also happens where a commander puts to sea himself and there is not even a senior officer aboard, but he proceeds with such a burden of varied and quite detailed orders and recommendations that there can be no question of any kind of independence in thinking or actions or of any tactical creativeness.

How can we fight against such phenomena, which degrade the quality and effectiveness of command training? There is one way here: Stereotypes, formalism, indulgences and oversimplification must be eradicated decisively in combat training and the training situation must approximate the conditions of actual combat in every way possible. We must ensure that officers have an opportunity to test their abilities in employing new, nonstandard techniques of conducting combat and we must develop in commanders a confidence in their strengths and abilities.

During preparations for Exercise "Zapad-81" the division of landing ships commanded by Capt 3d Rank Yu. Aflyatunov were practicing a mission to land naval infantry on an unprepared coast. In one drill Aflyatunov rejected his initial plan to land the force when the ships had come close to shore and suddenly gave the command for combat equipment to leave the ships when they still were a considerable distance from the landing point.

Just why did the commander do this? It turned out that he had been led by certain specialists who, without themselves having a detailed knowledge of landing conditions and the tactical capabilities of the landing ships, insistently advised him not to take a risk. Aflyatunov for his part was not able to prove that in this instance the risk was fully justified.

Everything had to be begun anew. New drills were arranged during which both Aflyatunov himself and the ship commanders subordinate to him again and again were persuaded of the advantages of bold, resolute actions, they gained confidence and learned to think based on the training situation specifically at hand and not on previously prepared formats. Then came the day of the exercise. The landing ships went right up to shore daringly and swiftly and supported the landing of naval infantry in the shortest possible time.

The ability to defend one's own opinion is one of the qualities which make an officer independent. He must be encouraged and developed in every way. In so doing, however, it also should not be forgotten that initiative and independence in combat are needed above all to execute the commander's order exactly and on time under any conditions. This has nothing in common with willfulness or arbitrariness. The only intelligent manifestations of independence and initiative are those directed at best performance of an assigned mission and which conform with the senior officer's overall plan.

Development of a commander's independence is a complex, many-sided matter. It would be incorrect to reduce it merely to developing a commander's ability to make competent decisions in combat. A commander also cannot get by without a search and without the ability to think and act independently in indoctrinational work with subordinates, in organization of the training process and in the struggle for discipline and regulation order. Some commanders seemingly are rather well trained and have the requisite skills of shiphandling, but show no independence in resolving daily issues and are incapable of a comprehensive evaluation of subordinates' schooling and a self-critical analysis of their own shortcomings, nor are they able to plan steps to remedy them. As a result the effectiveness of their command work is low.

Independence has to be shown in everything. It must be a feature of every officer's work style. Only then will success arrive. Take Capt 3d Rank L. Shevchenko for example. At one time he assumed command of the patrol ship "Bditel'nyy," aboard which things were going poorly. This did not dismay the officer. He set to work vigorously by persistently discovering reasons for shortcomings and forcing subordinates to think, analyze and seek reserves. Of course Capt 3d Rank Shevchenko was assisted in correcting the state of affairs aboard the ship by senior officers and the unit staff and political department. Nevertheless, he himself played the main role here. The "Bditel'nyy" now is one of the foremost ships in the fleet. A close-knit collective has formed aboard her in which the people are distinguished by a self-starting attitude toward service and a striving for the heights of combat proficiency. There is no doubt that the commander's mobilizing example ignited the fire of initiative in them.

It is our most important duty to develop such commanders who are genuinely mature, innovating and independent.

Staff Officers' Work Discussed

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Nov 82 p 2

[Article by Rear Adm F. Osipov, chief of political department of staff and directorates of the Red Banner Northern Fleet: "Efficiency and an Imaginative Approach: The Staff Officer's Activeness"]

[Text] A fleet staff officer arrived in the unit for an inspection. There was no doubt that this experienced officer who had gone through extensive fleet training would be able to identify positive elements and uncover existing shortcomings thoroughly and in a well-qualified manner, that he would give necessary recommendations and draw correct, objective conclusions for the report to the fleet command element. Along with questions of our officers' professional competence, conferences and party meetings in the fleet staff carry on a serious discussion about improving the effectiveness of their work. For while the work of commanders and staffs in local areas has to meet today's demands, it is the more necessary that fleet staff workers have a constant orientation on a search for everything that is the most advanced and, if you like, an orientation on the future.

Here it is above all a question of the activeness of their official position, a feeling for new things, and a profoundly party concern for the end result of our common labor. It is possible to perform one's functional duties very conscientiously and not feel a need to go beyond them, specifically where complications in coordination, mutual understanding and interaction oftentimes appear.

It is easy and simple to reason as follows: We have everything defined by documents, there is an established organization and each person must answer for himself, and so do your own job and someone will be found to be concerned for everything else. But such a complicated, many-sided, mobile organization as the fleet demands a constant improvement in organization, control and interaction. Staff officers have to sense and find local reserves for this improvement, uncover new capabilities and prompt the commanders and staffs to make effective use of them. "It is necessary to be able to act with consideration of the very latest achievements of military science and military art," emphasized Comrade L. I. Brezhnev in a speech at the Soviet Army and Navy management conference. "It is important to strive persistently for positive results in combat schooling. Special attention should be given to command and control."

At one time fleet small combatant personnel could in no way achieve stability of success in air defense training. Fleet staff officer Capt 1st Rank A. Dikarev worked long and thoroughly in the unit. It seemed that his special recommendations for remedying deficiencies were beneficial and timely. They were willingly received locally and an attempt was made to follow them, but for some reason no changes occurred. Besides this, discipline among the small combatant personnel was limping along and relationships among individual specialists in the unit were not distinguished by their faultlessness. Capt 1st Rank Dikarev initially did not ponder this. The technical situation, so to speak, was clear to him, but the rest was the concern of political entities. But after attending one of the meetings of the staff party organization of small combatant personnel, he realized that the party members were not genuinely attuned to a decisive struggle against miscalculations and deficiencies. Concern for their good name at times acquires a false character, which hinders an evaluation of the true state of affairs in an honest and principled party manner.

On the very same day Dikarev talked over this matter with the secretary of his party organization and with members of the party bureau. The experienced officer-party members arrived at a unanimous conclusion: It was necessary to increase the activeness of the small combatant personnel's staff, prompt it to place ship specialists under more careful supervision, arrange a precise and permanent system for analyzing the actual state of affairs in the subunits, and assist the party members locally in resolving the most pressing problems.

Much difficult work was planned, but Capt 1st Rank Dikarev received help from other officers of the fleet staff and political directorate. Such a concentration of efforts produced a rapid result. Soon it already was possible to speak of the small combatant personnel's first noticeable successes and about significant changes in the work style of unit staff officers. No one now

remembers the past failures of the small combatant personnel. For several years now they have been winning honorary prizes in competitive firing. Without a doubt this unit can be called a laboratory of foremost experience and it is noteworthy that everything achieved is the result of using its own reserves. Officers of the fleet staff helped uncover these reserves and put them to the service of combat readiness.

At meetings of the fleet staff party organizations, which usually have an inherently precise efficiency, one automatically notes what may be a certain psychological feature of our officers--their heightened concern for fleet affairs, selflessness, restlessness, and continuous striving to intervene actively in local affairs, to improve work and to subordinate it to the demands of the time. There is no question that personnel selection has an effect here (the most experienced specialists who are capable of thinking broadly and in a modern way come to the directorates), but at the same time a large part also is played by the staff atmosphere which prompts people to take a large-scale, state look at problems of improving combat readiness.

A boldness of views and an ability to reject something unproductive albeit traditional in one's work without doubts, to exert an active influence on an improvement in the work style of commanders and staffs in local areas, to help them in an interested party manner find new ways of solving existing problems, and to make people enthusiastic with one's own restlessness--those are the components of successful work for many fleet staff specialists.

Staff representatives often are awaited with clear nervousness in units and aboard ships. They will "dig up" something without fail, is the thought; i.e., there is not always a correct understanding of the value of senior comrades' ability to delve quickly into the depths of the life of large, complex collectives, identify that which at times people already have ceased to notice locally out of habit, and to lay bare the most acute problems which do not find proper attention and an effective solution.

Here is one noteworthy example. During an inspection of the large ASW ship "Admiral Isakov," Capt 2d Rank G. Stroitelev and Capt 2d Rank V. Ivchuk established that one of the systems had been operating poorly here for a long while. This was of course known aboard the ship, but they had not reported to higher echelons and the department head, Capt 2d Rank N. Kopysev, was convinced that they could not get by without yard assistance. He also persuaded staff officer Capt 2d Rank V. Korennoy of this. After determining the actual status of the equipment fleet staff officers concluded that good-quality repair was within the capability of unit specialists, and so it turned out. The repair was made quickly, but the struggle against parasitical sentiments and the inactivity of certain officers, also revealed by the staff specialists, demanded enormously greater expenditures of time and efforts for the unit command element and party organization.

In the final account the surface combatant personnel were deeply grateful to officers Stroitelev and Ivchuk for the help they gave. The fact is that in combat every deficiency--an obvious one let alone a concealed one--reduces chances for victory. The timely identification and elimination of

deficiencies should only gladden commanders who are genuinely concerned for the combat readiness of their ships and units. Therefore it is very important for the local people to take a party attitude toward the work of representatives of higher staffs in the units and toward their sincere attempt to give assistance; not fussing to keep them from finding out something, but to ensure a genuine well-being of affairs. Such an approach and unification of efforts in the name of the common cause always brings good results.

For a long while one of the subunits of ships was slow and often unsuccessful in accomplishing tasks of improving the quality of the personnel's ASW training. The command element undertook various steps, but the entire matter rested, as they believed here, on the need for large physical inputs for improvement of the training facility.

Fleet staff representative Capt 1st Rank V. Borisov thought otherwise. He could not agree that nothing could be done to improve the facility. Initially Capt 1st Rank Borisov tried carefully and objectively to learn from the unit flag specialist, Capt 2d Rank V. Drigola, what had been done with their own resources to improve the personnel training process. It turned out that the activities of unit staff officers in this direction reduced merely to inspections of the subunits and instructions. There were not even any attempts to renovate or improve the classroom equipment or reconstruct the training room.

The staff officers and ship specialists were assembled and the question was posed: What can we ourselves as party members do through our own initiative to improve the seamen's training? They figured all available physical reserves, identified the officers, warrant officers and petty officers inclined to perform rationalization work and outlined real plans to reconstruct classrooms and the training room with their own resources. After this the prepared proposals were submitted to the unit command element.

Everyone was attracted by the necessary and interesting work. The training room began to function long before the planned deadline and the renovated classrooms began to begin operation one after the other. And most important, a taste for initiative and independence appeared in the people. Unit staff officers expressed a readiness to revise many other aspects in the life of the combat collective of ASW personnel from the standpoint of more rational organization. Their experience now is recommended for use in other units.

Many problems difficult to resolve oftentimes arise in any major, complex matter. As indicated by experience, however, the difficulty in their resolution depends not just on objective conditions. Illusions of the insolubility of problems most often arise when they are encountered by specialists who are insufficiently prepared professionally and morally for difficulties. Here is where there is enormous importance in the assistance of senior staffs and political entities, high party exactingness, and the official principle of officers who are part of the staffs and political entities. It is under their constant influence that the entire operational training activity of ships and units acquires vital reality, from the all-encompassing plans to the most difficult exercises. Their active position and their imaginative attitude toward the job represent a most important factor in the further improvement in fleet combat readiness.

NAVAL FORCES

GERMAN SOURCE DESCRIBES MISSILE CRUISER 'KIROV'

East Berlin VOLKSARMEE in German No 41, 1982 (signed to press 4 Oct 82) p 8

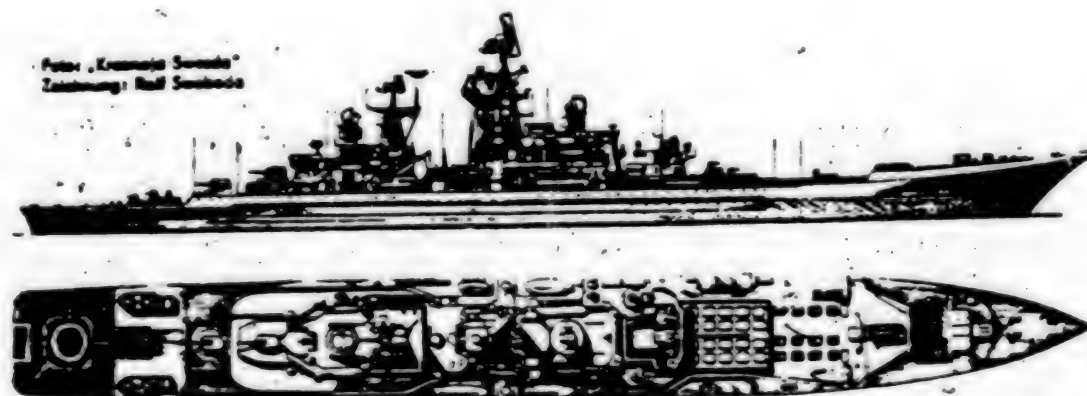
/Text/ A new modern warship of the Soviet fleet has now taken over the traditional name of the legendary old flag ship of the Baltic banner fleet, the conventional cruiser "Kirov." Apparently, the missile cruiser--which has already been mentioned in the documentary "Where Does the Danger For Peace Come From?" released by the Soviet Defense Ministry--stirs up considerable concern among some Western naval publishers. They speak of the "warship of superlatives," they guess, with a questionmark, about a "comeback of the battle cruisers," and of course this cruiser is also part of the legends about a "serious threat" of the West by a Soviet naval fleet.

It is easy to see from the documentary as well as from other maritime handbooks that the United States has for some years already maintained nine nuclear-powered missile cruisers and that additional ones are under construction. It is known that these engines have an almost unlimited range. While the Soviet Union has until now used such engines exclusively for submarines and icebreakers of its merchant fleet, the first U. S. nuclear-powered surface warship, the missile cruiser "Long Beach," was launched as early as 14 July 1959. It was followed by the first nuclear-powered attack aircraft carrier USS "Enterprise" in September 1960, also of a world-wide driving range. And warship of superlatives? The Soviet Union and its allied nations would be ill advised if they were to meet the danger coming from the depths of the seas surrounding the Soviet Union and from the U. S. and other NATO submarines equipped with long-range atomic rockets with outdated Sloops. The Soviet new-generation warship types developed exclusively for defense purposes fit perfectly into modern guidelines of Soviet warship construction, in which neither the profit motive of competing armament magnates nor advertising slogans for the selection of the ship's armament are considered. The existence of efficient NATO fleets which are not to be underestimated, which, with the strategic potential of its nuclear weapons systems can threaten the far hinterland of the Soviet Union, require the construction and development of warships which can do more than defend the socialist achievements in the coastal regions only.

Construction and Armament of the "Kirov"

The missile cruiser "Kirov" introduced in the Soviet military publication "Krasnaja Swesda" of 18 April 1982 is a universally deployable warship with a main weapons system which consists of rocket systems of various classes. The

hull has a continuous main deck and a fairly large separate bulwark. The superstructure located midships serves for the installation of the various radio-electronic homing and weapon-guidance systems. Integrated into this complex are also two separate exhaust ducts which end in the top part in an aft-protruding vent. On the forecastle, part of the missiles are arranged in launching pits with covers. The components of the conventional artillery consist of two fully-automatic universal cannons of medium caliber placed aft on an elevated platform, as well as several multi-barrel automatic tower cannons, along with their radar and weapon-guidance systems, placed on the side front and aft. The aft pit is laid out as launching and landing deck for shipboard helicopters. The presence of modern satellite navigation and communication installations as well as homing technology for under-water targets, and installation for radio-electronic warfare, can be presumed. Under the command of Cpt A. Kowaltschuk, the crew of the cruiser has already reached excellent results in political and combat training. The socialist competition begun by the cruiser's Komsomdo organization on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Soviet Union follows the slogan: "Reliable protection of the peaceful work of the Soviet people."



9328

CSO: 1826/7

DOSAAF AND MILITARY COMMISSARIATS

EDITORIAL PEGGED TO 8TH PLENUM USSR DOSAAF CC

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 18 Apr 82 p 1

[Editorial: "An Important Stage in DOSAAF Life"]

[Text] The 8th USSR DOSAAF CC Plenum held recently examined pressing issues of the Defense Society organizations' practical work and adopted appropriate decrees.

The plenum's work went on under the influence of resolutions of the 26th party congress and the November 1981 CPSU CC Plenum; the CPSU CC Decree "On the 60th Anniversary of the USSR's formation"; and speeches by CPSU CC General Secretary, Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Comrade L. I. Brezhnev at the 17th USSR Trade Union Congress and at ceremonies in Tashkent.

In connection with the expiration of terms of office for committees and auditing commissions of Defense Society organizations, reports and elections of DOSAAF management entities will be conducted from September of the current year through January of next year. It was decided to convene the next, 9th, All-Union DOSAAF Congress in Moscow in February 1983.

The plenum discussed tasks and defined steps for a further improvement in planning and for reinforcing the discipline of planning and execution in DOSAAF organizations in light of demands of the 26th CPSU Congress. It was noted that DOSAAF takes an active part in strengthening national defense and preparing workers to defend the Motherland. The Defense Society now numbers more than 100 million persons in its ranks, associated in 352,000 primary organizations. It is one of the largest mass social organizations of USSR workers.

Figuratively speaking, our multimillion-member Defense Society is a mass school of training and indoctrination, a large, complex mechanism which needs creative, knowledgeable leadership.

An orderly, precise and at the same time flexible system of management is necessary in order to activate enormous masses of people, use the technical means and physical assets correctly and direct them in the performance of DOSAAF's primary mission of comprehensive assistance to strengthening national defense and training workers to defend the Motherland. This is why, under

present-day conditions, an improvement in the management of DOSAAF's work becomes one of the most important problems in the activity of DOSAAF committees and leaders of all ranks.

The plenum noted that substantiated, balanced planning is one of the chief elements of management. It is not only a question of work plans of the staff and committees but, and this is the chief element, of organizations' development plans, substantiated tasks, and the quantitative and qualitative indicators of military-patriotic, mass defense, training and sports work; of development of the material-technical facility; and of financial and economic activity for the calendar year and for the longer term.

Following these demands, DOSAAF organizations of Moscow, the Ukraine, Georgia, and of Kuybyshev, Omsk, Rostov and Saratov oblasts, and other leading organizations are successfully fulfilling planned goals and socialist pledges, and they are progressing confidently. An increase in the Defense Society's activeness and work quality is the result of daily party leadership and the DOSAAF's close coordination with trade unions, the Komsomol, the "Znaniye" Society, military units, military commissariats and other organizations.

Unfortunately not yet all Society organizations are working effectively and with good quality. A number of DOSAAF committees are slowly implementing requirements of the CPSU CC Decree "On a Further Improvement in Ideological and Political Indoctrination Work." This is having a negative effect on the level of military-patriotic propaganda and reinforcement of primary organizations. The tasks of improving the practical schooling of specialists for the Armed Forces and the national economy are not being accomplished effectively enough.

Defense sports work is being reorganized slowly. There are deficiencies in the area of capital construction and material-technical supply, and in production and financial-economic activity.

The plenum expressed concern over the fact that a certain number of DOSAAF committees and organizations of the Tajik and Kirghiz SSR's, the Karelian and Tuva ASSR's, and the Kamchatka, Kalinin, Orenburg, Tambov and Chita oblasts have been working a long while below their capabilities, they have poor indicators in accomplishment of assigned tasks, and they are not carrying out effective measures to improve the level of mass defense work.

Many of the shortcomings in the work of these defense organizations are explained by a lack of constant persistence and purposefulness, which impedes fulfillment of directions of the 26th party congress and the November 1981 CPSU CC Plenum about improving the style and organizational work of management entities. A formal attitude toward planning and preparing decisions, a low level of the discipline of planning and execution, and an absence of proper exactingness and effective control check of execution exert a negative effect on work quality.

Preparation for reports and elections of management entities of DOSAAF organizations and for the 9th All-Union Defense Society Congress is an important

stage in DOSAAF life. Its chief feature is that the report and election campaign will occur in an atmosphere of high political and creative activeness of Soviet citizens, a nationwide struggle for implementing resolutions of the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent CPSU CC plenums, and widespread socialist competition for a worthy greeting to the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation.

The efforts of DOSAAF organization committees must be directed at improving the style of organizational activity and strengthening primary organizations so that they become spirited, vital collectives in ever greater numbers, which actively draw workers and the youth into mass defense work. Competition unfolded at the initiative of foremost DOSAAF organizations for a worthy greeting to the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation must gather force from day to day.

It is important to improve the effectiveness and quality of military-patriotic work in every way possible and ensure an improvement in indoctrination of the growing generation, especially the rural and student youth, in a spirit of steadfast fulfillment of Lenin's behests and the Communist Party's demands for defense of the socialist homeland and allegiance to the heroic revolutionary, combat and labor traditions of the party, the people and their valorous Armed Forces.

Training specialists for the Armed Forces represents one of the very important directions in the work of DOSAAF organizations. It must be ensured that it is not just technically trained people who emerge from DOSAAF schools and air clubs, but specialists capable of performing their duties under difficult conditions approximating the combat situation to the maximum. There is great importance in a further improvement of political indoctrination work in DOSAAF training organizations.

DOSAAF committees are faced with responsible tasks in preparing cadres of mass technical trades for the national economy. This matter must be given a more organized and planned character. We must ensure a high quality of training with consideration of the DOSAAF organizations' material and technical capabilities and the needs of local economic entities.

The program of measures for improving the people's welfare developed by the 26th CPSU Congress devotes much attention to a further development of physical culture and the mass sports movement. The 7th Plenum of the USSR DOSAAF CC, which discussed defense organization tasks stemming from the CPSU CC and USSR Council of Ministers Decree "On a Further Upswing in the Mass Nature of Physical Culture and Sport," set specific measures for improving the mass nature of technical and applied military sports. There must be continuous supervision over a fulfillment of resolutions on this matter.

An important task of the upcoming report-election campaign is a detailed, comprehensive examination and an objective evaluation of the practical work of DOSAAF organizations to implement demands of the 26th party congress and subsequent CPSU CC decrees, and the recommendations and conclusions set forth in Comrade Brezhnev's speeches and works. The campaign is called upon to become

an exacting review of work results of Society organizations to implement resolutions of the 8th All-Union DOSAAF Congress and decrees of USSR DOSAAF CC plenums and the presidium.

The report-election campaign must be used for a comprehensive analysis of the work of all structural elements of DOSAAF. There must be a careful approach to everything positive contained in the work, what has been achieved must be reinforced, shortcomings must be revealed and ways must be outlined for further progress. We must unfold widely a mass patriotic movement among DOSAAF members and collectives under the motto "A worthy greeting for the 9th All-Union DOSAAF Congress," aimed at a further improvement of military-patriotic, mass defense, training and sports work, and production activity.

The content of the report-election campaign and its conduct at a high ideological and organizational level will depend to a significant extent on how correctly and efficiently DOSAAF organization committees organize preparations for it and on the quality with which they plan their work.

In the near future these matters will be discussed at DOSAAF CC plenums of union republics and of DOSAAF kray, oblast, rayon and city committees; and at sessions of primary organization committees and auditing commissions. Proper steps will be taken by those committees which promptly hold seminars for the chairmen of committees and auditing commissions, for instructors and for heads of non-T/O&E departments and commissions; which give practical assistance; and which hold individual briefings for workers and activists in local areas.

The preparatory work is intended to ensure high efficiency of meetings and conferences, which must be distinguished by a fundamental exactingness of DOSAAF members and by a critical approach to evaluating what has been done.

The report-election campaign is the period when much can be done. High efficiency and organization in the work of implementing resolutions of the 8th USSR DOSAAF CC Plenum and in the preparation and conduct of reports and elections and the 9th All-Union DOSAAF Congress will have a beneficial effect on the further improvement in the level of work of all DOSAAF elements to carry out tasks facing the Defense Society. This will demonstrate with new vigor, clearly and convincingly, the utter dedication of DOSAAF members to the Leninist Communist Party and will reflect active support and unanimous approval for its domestic and foreign policy, and a readiness to continue to participate actively in strengthening the economic and defense might of the socialist Motherland.

6904

CSO: 1801/089

DOSAAF AND MILITARY COMMISSARIATS

SCIENTIFIC-PRACTICAL CONFERENCE ON IMPROVING TRAINING REPORTED

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 18 Apr 82 p 2

[Article: "All-Union Practical Science Conference: Improve Cadet Training and Indoctrination"; passages rendered in all capital letters printed in boldface in source]

[Text] The All-Union Practical Science Conference organized by the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee was held in Moscow. Its participants discussed problems of further improving the training and indoctrination process in DOSAAF training organizations in light of requirements of the 26th CPSU Congress.

Participating in the conference's work were responsible workers of the CPSU CC, Komсомol CC, USSR ministry of defense, members of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee, chairmen of DOSAAF CC's of union republics and of the Society's kray and oblast committees, deputy chairmen, as well as the heads, instructors and masters of some DOSAAF training organizations.

The conference was opened by USSR DOSAAF CC Chairman HSU Flt Adm G. YEGOROV. A. KUNILOV, chief of the USSR DOSAAF CC military-technical training directorate, gave a briefing entitled "Ways and methods of improving the training and indoctrination process in DOSAAF training organizations in light of demands of the 26th CPSU Congress."

The briefer remarked that in recent years the DOSAAF CC's of union republics, the Society's kray and oblast committees and training organization collectives noticeably improved the quality of specialist training for the Armed Forces, strengthened management and instructor personnel, and performed extensive work to improve the physical facility. For example, while only 61 percent of automotive and technical schools had vehicle test areas in 1976, 96 percent had them in 1981. All radiotechnical schools set up radio training areas and there are now more ship damage control training areas in nautical schools.

DOSAAF schools of the Ukraine, Belorussia, Georgia, Armenia, Lithuania, Tatars; of Volgograd, Kuybyshev, Omsk, Rostov and Tula oblasts; and of the city of Moscow are achieving high indicators in preparing specialists for the Army and Navy. Many training organizations have been awarded Challenge Red Banners of branches of the Armed Forces, the Airborne Troops and military districts for successes in training future military personnel. Among them are the Shyaulay and Gor'kiy joint technical schools, the Kemerovo Air Club, the Simferopol' Air Sports Club, the Tashkent Nautical School and the Kostroma Radiotechnical School.

But the successes provide no basis for self-complacency. The technical outfitting of the Army and Navy grows with each year and criteria of their combat readiness become more complicated. For this reason a further improvement in the training and indoctrinational process is a very important direction in the work of DOSAAF committees and schools. It is a matter of the graduates of the Society's training organizations not only having a good knowledge of combat equipment, but also having good military schooling, mastering small arms, being politically competent and physically developed, and possessing high volitional qualities.

Some progress unquestionably has been made in resolving this task. For example, cadets at the Khabarovsk Nautical School are mastering skills in damage control: They patch "holes," put out "fires" and work in heat-resistant suits. Automotive schools (particularly in the Slutsk, Zhitomir and Taganrog schools) devote much attention to training draftees to drive a motor vehicle in a column, and the skills a driver needs to negotiate difficult terrain sectors are practiced at vehicle training areas. Foremost training organizations have begun to make it a practice to introduce troubles in an engine from the instructor's console and to use surprise obstacles at the vehicle training areas.

But there still are unused reserves here. For example, great importance lies in objectivity of evaluating cadets' knowledge. An inflation of grades creates a false impression of the training level and does great harm to the work. For example, according to accounting data of the Dagestan Oblast DOSAAF Committee for the 1981/1982 training year, 95 percent of trained specialists passed graduation examinations with grades of "outstanding" or "good." But not all the cadets surveyed confirmed these grades in a check performed by a USSR DOSAAF CC commission in January of this year.

Special attention should be given to improving practical laboratory classes and practical classes, the cadets' practice of exercises in tasks and norms, an increase in the number of training stations in LPZ [practical laboratory class] classrooms, and to providing each lesson with the necessary equipment, tools, devices and fuels and lubricants.

An important role is played by technical training means, which open the way to economy and rational use of training time and assure a close link between theoretical and practical training. Almost all kinds of technical training means, especially in theoretical classes, are widely used in the practical work of DOSAAF schools. Lately they have begun to be used in practical laboratory classes and practical classes.

But there also are many unresolved problems here. The time has come to draw up recommendations concerning the use of technical means in different training subjects and to determine the necessary set of such means for each classroom.

Experience indicates that the effectiveness of DOSAAF training organizations' work has a direct relationship to the selection, placement, indoctrination and training of personnel. Positive advances have been noted in this matter, but it is not yet everywhere that the problem of personnel turnover has been solved, especially the turnover of a category such as production driver training foreman. Not all schools are fully staffed. Daily painstaking work is necessary to solve these problems.

It is important to show constant concern for a further improvement in the pedagogic and specialized knowledge of instructors and foremen. The chief role here is given to pedagogic councils and subject commissions, which must direct their work toward improving methods proficiency of the indoctrinators and toward a generalization and adoption of foremost experience in the training and indoctrination process.

The work of pedagogic councils and subject commissions of some of the Society's schools unfortunately has serious omissions. Little attention is given to a study of foremost experience. Organizational-methods instructions and recommendations of the USSR DOSAAF CC are not always made known to instructors and foremen.

The future soldier needs not only firm technical knowledge and skills, but also strong ideological conditioning. Guided by requirements of the 26th CPSU Congress and the CPSU CC decree dated 26 April 1979, the Defense Society's committees are persistently striving for a further improvement in the level of ideological work in training organizations and for a comprehensive solution to problems of military-patriotic indoctrination.

Effective arrangement of the indoctrinational process in DOSAAF schools depends above all on the cadets' mentors' level of qualification and job and moral-political qualities. In recent years training organizations have begun to devote more attention to improving the level of instructors' and masters' ideological-theoretical preparation and to including them in indoctrinational work with draftees.

The work of a number of DOSAAF committees and training organizations in indoctrinating the permanent party, however, still does not fully meet the demands stemming from resolutions of the 26th CPSU Congress. Much still has to be done to fulfill the CPSU CC, USSR Council of Ministers and AUCCTU Decree "On Further Strengthening of Labor Discipline and Reducing Personnel Turnover in the National Economy."

An important place among the varied forms of indoctrinational work with cadets rests with political classes and political briefings. These are conducted meaningfully and in conformity with demands placed on them in the Grodno Joint Technical School, the Slutsk Model Automotive School, the Khar'kov Radiotechnical School, the Uzlovaya Automotive School, the Kiev

Nautical School and the Rostov and Zaporozh'ye air clubs. Political study group instructors here regard the work imaginatively, they are constantly seeking new, effective forms of propaganda, and they make skilled use of technical means: visual aids and training aids.

Lectures, briefings and talks on a military-patriotic theme are arranged regularly for cadets in leading training organizations, meetings are held with Great Patriotic War and labor veterans, and defense films are shown. Rallies of persons outstanding in training and meetings between instructors and draftees' parents are becoming widespread.

But that is not the case everywhere. Some DOSAAF school heads monitor the progress of cadets' political studies poorly. It happens where classes are conducted in violation of methods recommendations by the lecture method and not by the method of a lively, detailed discussion. There are violations of the recommendations for conducting political briefings.

Socialist competition is an effective means for mobilizing the personnel of DOSAAF schools and clubs to perform the tasks facing them. It develops a communist conviction in the youth and assures the cadets' high degree of progress, discipline and efficiency. Competition in tasks and norms largely contributes to draftees' practical schooling.

Union republic DOSAAF CC's and the Society's kray and oblast committees do much to improve the level of theoretical knowledge and practical schooling of future military specialists. The style of managing the training organizations is perfected from year to year, more comprehensive inspections have begun to be conducted, and the discipline of execution has risen.

At the same time we must continue to improve management of the training organizations, overcome the lag of some schools and draw them up to the level of the foremost. Particular attention is required by multiprofile schools in which future motor vehicle drivers and communications and naval specialists train simultaneously.

A. Kunilov further dwelled on the work style and methods of managers. He gave two DOSAAF obkoms--the Omsk and Tomsk--as an example. Despite the fact that both committees are operating under the very same conditions, the Omsk Oblast organization is foremost and the Tomsk organization has lagged behind for many years.

The experience of the Omsk Oblast DOSAAF committee indicates that an improvement in the work of training organizations can be achieved above all by giving qualified assistance directly on the spot. The Defense Society has many schools where management and instructor personnel have insufficient experience in training and indoctrinating young people. They can be given much help by the demonstration classes and instructional methods classes conducted by specialists and by the committee workers' direct participation in compiling planning documents.

"It is the duty of DOSAAF committees," said the briefer in conclusion, "to comprehend thoroughly the positive experience which has been gained, to outline further ways and methods to improve the training and indoctrination process in DOSAAF schools and clubs, and to greet the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation with successes in elevating the quality of specialist training for the Armed Forces."

The work of DOSAAF training organizations was examined in light of the demands being placed on Army and Navy personnel today in the briefing given by HSU Col Gen Yu. NAUMENKO, deputy CIC of the Ground Forces for civilian military training and chief of civilian military training of the USSR Ministry of Defense.

The briefer noted that recent years have been characterized by a noticeable improvement in the quality of cadet training in Society schools and clubs. For example, based on results of the 1980/1981 training year, Challenge Red Banners of the USSR Ministry of Defense for best preparation of specialists for the Armed Forces were conferred on DOSAAF organizations of Armenian SSR, Tatar ASSR and Volgograd Oblast. Much that is positive in this regard also has been done in other republics, krais and oblasts.

Checks show, however, said the speaker, that far from all the committees and heads of training organizations have yet achieved good quality in performing the tasks facing them. There are serious shortcomings in the practical schooling of future soldiers. They oftentimes lack efficiency and discipline. The habit of following the Army routine is poorly instilled in cadets in a number of schools, and proper attention is not given to their physical conditioning.

And speaking about automotive schools, one of the chief problems here is to train cadets to drive a motor vehicle under bad road conditions, during hours of darkness and through restricted passages. Specialists of other profiles who have undergone training in the Society's training organizations at times lack confidence in mastery of work skills with combat equipment and weapons, and they become confused in a situation where various hindrances are created.

The primary reasons for gaps in cadets' practical schooling, remarked the briefer, is a low level of professional and methods training on the part of instructors and foremen in some schools, an insufficiently strong training facility, and nonspecific direction of the training organizations on the part of a number of DOSAAF committees.

Yu. Naumenko also dwelled in detail on certain issues of the moral-political and psychological training of the future military personnel and their physical education. He emphasized that there are great reserves for a further improvement in the work quality of DOSAAF training organizations and that their comprehensive mobilization unquestionably will allow elevating cadet training and indoctrination to the level of today's demands.

DOSAAF organizations accomplish the training and military-patriotic indoctrination of future military personnel in close contact with the Komsomol, said V. Vasin, chief of the Komsomol CC sports and mass defense work department, in

his presentation. Many Komsomol members acquire technical specialties in Defense Society schools. Komsomol committees actively assist school collectives to indoctrinate and train the cadets.

An important factor of this cooperation are the provisional Komsomol organizations through which Komsomol committees exert direct influence on draftees studying in DOSAAF training organizations.

We could mention the Dneprodzerzhinsk Automotive School, for example, where a Komsomol organization functions actively, a precise system of cadet political studies has been arranged, and there are regular military-patriotic and sports activities. Representatives of the Ukrainian Komsomol gorkom are frequent guests at the school. The Izhevsk and Taganrog automotive schools, the Khabarovsk, Novosibirsk and Tashkent nautical schools, the Shyaulay and Gor'kiy joint technical schools, the Kostroma and Moscow radiotechnical schools and many other DOSAAF schools merit good words in this respect.

The speaker told about participation of Society training organization cadets in the All-Union Tour to Places of Revolutionary, Combat and Labor Glory of the Communist Party and Soviet People and in the "Great Patriotic Annals" expedition.

At the same time, Vasin's speech contained criticism addressed to the Vologda, Sakhalin, Kamchatka, Tuva, Yakutsk, Dzhizak and Semipalatinsk oblast Komsomol committees, which are not giving proper attention to the work of provisional Komsomol organizations in DOSAAF schools.

The working experience of Ukrainian DOSAAF committees to improve the effectiveness of the training and indoctrination process in Society training organizations was imparted by Lt Gen Avn A. KOROTCHENKO, chairman of the Ukrainian SSR DOSAAF CC. These matters, he said, are examined regularly at courses, seminars, practical science conferences, and conferences of committee and school heads. The republic DOSAAF CC and Society obkoms give much attention to the study and dissemination of the foremost personnel's experience. For example, a study now is being made of the experience of organizing programmed training in the process of practical laboratory classes gained in a number of schools.

An important means for improving specialist training for the Armed Forces, emphasized the speaker, is effective control. Each year full-scale and special inspections are made by Ukrainian DOSAAF CC workers in more than half the training organizations. They help uncover reasons for deficiencies, provide effective assistance to laggards and at the same time identify the new and foremost elements appearing in the working practice of the best schools.

The high level of cadet training and a strengthening of pedagogic collectives of DOSAAF schools largely depend on the work of their party organizations, said D. SHURSHIN, deputy chairman of Kuybyshev Oblast DOSAAF committee. Instructors and foremen of oblast training organizations take an active part in the political study system, hold political briefings for cadets and participate in their military-patriotic indoctrination. All this work is directed by the party organizations.

The Kuybyshev Joint Technical School serves as an example in this respect. A third of the workers here are party members, 85 percent have a higher education, and 83 percent have worked at the school since it was created. Ideological and political indoctrination work is conducted on a planned basis, with high effectiveness in the school.

M. KLIMANOV, deputy chairman of Rostov Oblast DOSAAF committee, devoted his presentation to issues of strengthening the training facility. The oblast has certain achievements in this regard. While eight years ago only the Taganrog Automotive School was outfitted according to requirements, today all training organizations have well equipped classrooms, simulators, motor vehicle training areas and ranges. Much has been done here using the organization's own resources. Each school has a specific plan for improving the facility and the obkom constantly monitors its fulfillment. All conditions for productive work by rationalizers also have been created in the schools.

Uniformity of cadet training and indoctrination is a necessary condition for their preparation. A. LYUBETSKIY, chief of the Slutsk Model Automotive School of Minsk Oblast, backed up this idea with facts from the life of his training organization. The school uses a rich arsenal of forms and methods of indoctrinational work: meetings with war and labor veterans, and talks and lectures on the military-patriotic theme. When political classes and political briefings are held the narrative about successes in building communism and about the grand traditions of the Communist Party, Soviet people and USSR Armed Forces is combined integrally with coverage of issues in the life of the automotive school collective and cadets' tasks.

No small part is played by well arranged, graphic visual agitation. Military-patriotic propaganda makes extensive use of technical means of improving its effectiveness.

Heroic-patriotic propaganda has become an inalienable part of indoctrinational work with cadets at the Yerevan Model Technical School imeni HSU Chief Mar Armd Trps A. Kh. Babadzhanyan as well. This was related at the conference by G. MURADYAN, deputy school chief for training and indoctrination work. And A. YASHUNIN, deputy chief of the Vladimir DOSAAF Air Club, devoted his presentation to forms and methods of moral-political and psychological preparation of aviation sportsmen and parachutists. Qualities needed by real aviators are developed in the cadets both during indoctrinational activities and directly during training. The air club leaders pay constant attention to indoctrinating the teachers themselves--the instructor-pilots and instructors.

The collective of the Khabarovsk DOSAAF Model Nautical School became one of the initiators of the Society's organizations' All-Union Socialist Competition in honor of the USSR's 60th anniversary. A. BYKHOVSKIY, school chief, spoke specifically at the conference about the role of socialist competition in preparing future military personnel. The basis of competition among cadets comprises their individual pledges, with pledges of groups and the school drawn up and adopted based on them. Progress of the competition is reflected in the "Socialist Competition Board," during a weekly summarization of results, and in school orders published each month. Members of the pedagogic collective

also compete actively among themselves. All this is bearing fruit: The school is the leader among kray training organizations and firmly holds the honorable title of model.

A discussion at the conference about problems of improving the training of specialists of a varying profile was conducted by A. YEFREMOV, deputy chief of the Kostroma Radiotechnical School for training and production; M. TIKHENENKO, an instructor at the Volgograd Model Automotive School of the city of Moscow; and L. PAVLOVSKIY, senior production training foreman of the Novosibirsk Joint Technical School.

Conference results were summarized by USSR DOSAAF CC Chairman Flt Adm G. YEGOROV. He took note of the businesslike character of the discussion and expressed confidence that the conference's recommendations would be adopted by Society committees and by the collectives of DOSAAF schools and clubs in their daily work of training future military personnel. Yegorov emphasized the responsibility of DOSAAF committees and the leaders and all workers of training organizations for a further improvement in the quality and effectiveness of the training and indoctrination process and for improving cadets' practical schooling.

Recommendations were adopted at the all-union practical science conference for the further improvement of the training and indoctrination process and an increase in quality of specialist training for the Armed Forces in light of demands of the 26th CPSU Congress.

The recommendations state in part that DOSAAF committees and training organizations must improve forms of indoctrinating draftees in Lenin's precepts and USSR Constitution provisions on defense of the socialist homeland; develop their love for the Soviet Armed Forces and the military specialty; and see to it that the cadets have a thorough professional training and high moral-psychological qualities.

In preparing specialists for the Armed Forces special attention must be concentrated on quality in holding every class and on developing the cadets' firm practical skills in working on the equipment. During 1982-1983 prepare suggestions for improving all training programs. Strive for precise organization of training, complete logistical support and maximum cadet participation in independent performance of exercises in theoretical, laboratory and practical classes.

Ensure high-quality training in combined-arms training. Develop military smartness in cadets and teach the lads to use small arms and means of defense against mass destruction weapons.

Show constant concern for elevating the ideological and organizational level of political classes and political briefings as the basic forms for indoctrinating draftees. In every class create an imaginative situation and make more extensive use of modern technical means of training and propaganda and of training and visual aids.

The conference recommended an improvement in cadets' physical education, the development of technical and applied military sports, and ensuring that 100 percent of the lads pass standards of the GTO [Ready for Labor and Defense] complex, and that 60 percent of them fulfill the norm of a sports category during the time of training.

Basic efforts in political indoctrination work with the permanent party and cadets of DOSAAF training organizations are to be directed at implementing resolutions of the 26th CPSU Congress. Diversify forms of mass political work, improve the ideological-theoretical level of political indoctrination activities, persistently explain to the young men the Armed Forces' missions under present-day conditions, familiarize them more extensively with requirements of the military oath and military regulations and with the personnel's life and everyday routine, introduce elements of military indoctrination, and develop their sense of duty and high discipline.

Make vigorous use of activities dedicated to the 40th anniversary of outstanding battles of the Great Patriotic War in propagandizing among cadets the grand combat traditions of the Communist Party, the Soviet people and the USSR Armed Forces.

Make fuller use of the indoctrinational capabilities of socialist competition and motivate the draftees to achieve best results in mastering a military specialty. Organize competition in tasks and norms in every DOSAAF school and air sports club. Generalize and propagandize the experience of persons outstanding in training and make wide use of forms of moral and material incentives for competition winners.

Direct individual socialist competition of instructor personnel toward an improvement in the training and indoctrination process; use of foremost experience; an improvement in the quality of personal special training, the ideological-political and theoretical level, and pedagogic proficiency; and fulfillment of methodological and rationalization work plans.

Persistently conduct work to improve the selection, placement, training and indoctrination of the permanent party of DOSAAF schools and clubs, to form stable pedagogic collectives, to create a healthy moral climate in them, to strengthen labor discipline and to reduce personnel turnover.

Give the permanent party assistance in acquiring skills of combining the functions of leader, instructor, foreman and teacher with duties of the indoctrinator; arm them with scientific methods and practical skills in organizing the training and indoctrination process; and see that examples are set in their personal conduct and fulfillment of official duties.

Step up the work of improving the ideological-political level of management and instructor personnel and training them in the practice of holding mass military-patriotic activities during nonclass time and in the ability to conduct individual indoctrination work with cadets. Include masters and instructors more actively in the sociopolitical life of training organizations. Show concern for the everyday life of young men accommodated in dormitories and private apartments.

The conference recommendations also state the need for a further improvement in the material-technical facility, for providing training organizations with a full set of T/O&E equipment, and for creating in every school the necessary number of classrooms fully outfitted with equipment and technical training means with consideration of modern requirements on the training of specialists for the Army and Navy.

During the period 1982-1983 prepare and hold among DOSAAF training organizations all-union competitive reviews of technical training means made by rationalizers, for best organization of motor pool service and accidentfree operation of vehicles, and for best condition of water stations and training areas. DOSAAF committees are to make it a practice to hold annual competitive review for the best reading room, motor vehicle training area, training classroom and library.

It is suggested that DOSAAF committees improve the style and methods of managing training organizations, reinforce supervision over the course of the training and indoctrination process, improve the practice of comprehensive inspections, systematically study the state of affairs in schools and clubs, and take concrete steps to give help in improving the level of cadet training and indoctrination.

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MILITARY SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES

MILITARY EDUCATION DISCUSSED

Training of Military-Scientific Personnel

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Jun 82 p 2

[Article by Lt Gen Avn A. Volkov, chief of political department of Air Engineering Academy imeni Professor N. Ye. Zhukovskiy: "Military Educational Institutions: Military-Scientific Cadre Training: In Unity with Indoctrination"]

[Text] I recall a session of the Academy council which discussed questions of improving the training of post graduate students. This area of the work seemed not to cause particular concern. Even now several dozen officers complete post graduate work annually at the Academy, which in the years of its existence has prepared over 140 doctors and 1,600 candidates of sciences. The overwhelming majority of these officers complete the preparation of dissertations on a timely basis, defend them successfully, and work productively in the chairs and in laboratories. But the session discussion turned out to be sharp, with the focus of attention being omissions in scientific-professional work, and especially indoctrinational work with future military scientists. It was not even because of the fact that some comrades have to be dismissed from post graduate work or that every tenth person in this category of our students does not keep within the prescribed time periods in preparing the dissertation.

"These are obvious errors. They are on the surface," said chair chief Engr-Maj Gen M. Nisht.

"We have to take a fundamental look at outwardly satisfactory indicators. It happens where yesterday's post graduate student who has become a candidate of sciences takes over an instructor position and assumes that the main thing in life has been achieved and he stands still in professional improvement. We brought him up to the necessary scientific standard and have the right to give ourselves a plus, but we don't experience genuine satisfaction because we didn't develop a real scientist."

Many session participants supported this idea. Those academy graduates who have an inherent deep party spirit, ideological-theoretical conditioning and

the ability to put the interests of the job above all else have become prominent figures of science and technology, well-known designers, inventors, directors and organizers of significant scientific research. But do we always thoughtfully and purposefully influence the ideology, spiritual world and character of the post graduate student, the future scientist? Isn't it true that his scientific research work and dissertation preparation absorb all attention of the teachers?

Unfortunately it is. And at times it is difficult to blame the young instructor for the fact that he is incapable of ensuring high party spirit of instruction or does not clearly see the ideological and indoctrinational aspects of his subject. We didn't teach him this objectively.

We didn't teach him at times allegedly because of a lack of time and relied on the person's natural gifts and abilities. The fact is that officers selected for post graduate work have a creative cast of mind and are inquisitive, industrious and obsessed in studies. They seemingly don't have to be indoctrinated. But in life everything is much more complicated.

The party and job qualities of officers wishing to do post graduate work really are studied thoroughly. The chairs establish advance contact with future post graduate students, their superiors and the party organizations where they are registered. The candidate is not simply studied, but is assisted in preparing better for competitive entrance examinations and he is given suggestions on how to begin collecting materials for the upcoming research. The commission which performs selection of candidates for post graduate work contains the most experienced teachers.

It stands to reason, however, that any one of the candidates is endowed with more than just virtues. One person managed to give a positive account of himself in an engineer leadership position in a unit and proved to be a rather good organizer, but does not yet have the skills of scientific research. Another person who has just completed the Academy or another higher educational institution has shown an inclination for scientific research but has no experience in practical engineer work. In the very process of selecting candidates for post graduate work it is apparent that we must develop both their research abilities as well as certain character traits.

It is impossible to transfer to post graduate students mechanically the forms and methods of ideological indoctrination work which fully justify themselves with respect to undergraduates. Post graduate students are faced with problems of a higher order. They have a complete university course of social sciences behind them. The future scientists do not simply need a replenishment of their ideological and theoretical store of knowledge, but above all an assimilation of the methodological riches of Marxism-Leninism. A differentiated approach is especially important in working with them.

Practical experience has persuaded us of the expediency of combining long-range and annual planning of post graduate training. The plan for communist indoctrination of post graduate students reflects matters of ideological-political, professional-scientific, military and moral indoctrination. The

plan gives purpose to all indoctrinational work by coordinating the efforts of the Academy command element, faculties, political workers, party organizations, chairs and officers' clubs.

An important role in its implementation is played by the chair of Marxist-Leninist philosophy and scientific communism. It understandably does not restrict its task to the preparation of post graduate students for taking candidates' examinations on dialectical and historical materialism. Together with pedagogues of other chairs, instructors of Marxist-Leninist philosophy drew up a special course for post graduate students entitled "Methodological Problems of Military Theory and Practice."

The introduction of this course required great efforts on the part of the teachers. Fullest consideration had to be given to the specific features of the Academy and to the professional direction in post graduate training. Doctor of Philosophical Sciences Maj Gen Avn V. Khalipov, Candidate of Philosophical Sciences Col V. Pochtar' and other experienced instructors worked to develop problem-oriented lectures. Post graduate students' papers also contribute to enriching the course with factual material. Engr-Maj V. Alekseyev, Engr-Maj I. Shuklin and Engr-Capt Yu. Andriyevskiy, for example, prepared interesting projects on the dialectics of development of aviation science and technology, the social role of military scientists, and exposure of bourgeois technocratic theories. The post graduate students' scientific directors assist them in selecting current topics for papers.

It has become traditional at the Academy to hold joint sessions of the chairs of social sciences and specialized chairs, methodological seminars, and theoretical conferences permitting an examination of problems in developing the scientist's personality comprehensively and thoroughly. A very great deal depends on the chairs in developing post graduate students as future scientists. It is here, in the process of daily work, that there is a full revelation of the moral and job qualities of young officers who have decided to dedicate their lives to military science. Providing assistance to promising specialists in scientific research and developing in them an active position in life and a readiness to overcome all difficulties on the path to their goal is not just a task for chair chiefs and the post graduate students' scientific directors, but of the entire collective of chairs.

Regular auditions for post graduate students in chair party organizations and individual interviews with them on materials of the 26th CPSU Congress and the May 1982 CPSU Central Committee Plenum proved their value. Post graduate students have constant party assignments and take an active part in sociopolitical and mass cultural work.

Generals and officers who have recognized scientific authority, high party qualities and extensive experience in life are appointed as scientific directors of the post graduate students at the Academy. Among them are many Great Patriotic War participants. In addition to all else, the scientific director's work with his ward is a heart-to-heart transfer of the university's grand traditions and the indoctrination of a love for aviation and a readiness to take a difficult, untrodden path in science. Classes are conducted with

post graduate students by doctors of sciences engineer-major generals I. Kazakov, Ye. Rummyantsev and V. Tikhonov, by Engr-Col A. Tarasenkov and by other scientists who are able to combine a high scientific nature of instruction with a fervent party spirit.

Dissertation work also helps the future scientist's ideological conditioning. In our academy a dissertation is a military-technical exploration, but its preparation and defense are not simply proof of extensive scientific-technical erudition and creative capabilities. They also are a check of the scientist's ideological culture and political horizons. The dissertation's scientific value is measured by the scientist's personal contribution toward fulfilling requirements which stem for us from resolutions of the 26th party congress, and his contribution toward improving combat readiness of the Armed Forces.

The problems of preparing military-scientific cadres is becoming more and more complicated. The scope of knowledge mandatory for the military scientist is growing and the tasks connected with a further development of technology require more and more creative efforts of him. This makes it even more important to achieve an integral unity of post graduate students' scientific-professional training with their development of high moral-political qualities by which Soviet scientists always have been distinguished--communist awareness, patriotism, and a readiness to give one's all for the Motherland and the party cause.

Lt Gen A. Mironov on Leadership Qualities

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Jun 82 p 2

[Article by Lt Gen A. Mironov, chief of a directorate of Main Personnel Directorate of USSR Ministry of Defense: "The Most Worthy to Military Schools: Our Common Concern"]

[Text] In a report at the 6th All-Army Conference of Primary Party Organization Secretaries USSR Minister of Defense Mar SU D. F. Ustinov defined the qualities needed today by the Soviet military leader. They are competency, a keen feeling for new things, and the ability to assume responsibility for accomplishment of difficult tasks, promptly noting and supporting an initiative, and mobilizing the personnel's will and energy. An ability to think and act under conditions of an extremely rigid time limit and enormous moral-psychological and physical stresses is mandatory for the military leader of any rank.

Each military teacher took these words as being addressed to himself personally. That is just what his wards--tomorrow's lieutenants--must become. This means that the training and indoctrination process in military schools has to be improved steadily, new and more effective training techniques must be found, and future officers must be armed with detailed theoretical knowledge and thorough practical training. Life persuades us that this is not a simple task. Even for the most talented teacher and with the most perfect training plans and programs, much depends on the person with whom he begins to work and who he is teaching and indoctrinating.

A simple but indicative study was made last year in a number of schools to compare the grades of graduation and entrance examinations. It turned out that the highest grades were those of graduates who had distinguished themselves even while entering the schools. And there was one further conclusion: Cadets who had managed to serve in the Army or Navy and who consequently made their choice in life with more understanding felt especially confident in state examinations. We will add that as a rule this category of graduate also has fewer difficulties in officer development.

The interests of the matter require that concern for worthy personnel for military educational institutions be shown long before entrance examinations. There must be thoughtful, painstaking work--indoctrinational and organizational--with young lads dreaming of the officer's profession in schools, PTU [vocational-technical schools], tekhnikums, units and ships.

Satisfaction was received from a check of the work of selecting candidates for military schools in a number of Ural military commissariats--in Sverdlovsk, Chelyabinsk and Perm oblasts. Party, soviet and Komsomol entities and military commissariats give much attention here to the selection of young men dreaming of studying in military educational institutions. For example, military commissariats in Ordzhonikidzevskiy, Kirovskiy and Chkalovskiy rayons of Sverdlovsk and in the cities of Pervouralsk, Kamensk-Ural'skiy and Nizhniy Tagil have no difficulty selecting persons desiring to enter military schools. It is gratifying that the best school graduates usually are among the candidates. Effective forms for propagandizing the heroic profession of officer have been established in cities and rural rayons. The schools hold evening gatherings at which the talk is about the romance of military service and remarkable traditions of our Armed Forces and the Soviet officer corps. Great Patriotic War veterans and officers and cadets of military schools speak at this time. Local newspapers, particularly URAL'SKIY RABOCHIY and NA SMENU regularly publish articles about the life of cadets and service of officer-countrymen, and the rules for acceptance into military schools. Local radio and television give much attention to military-patriotic topics.

Staffs have been set up under city and rayon military commissariats to prepare the youth for military service. The staffs include representatives of party and Komsomol entities, ispolkoms of soviets of people's deputies, DOSAAF committees and sports organizations. Sessions of the staffs periodically discuss progress in selecting school candidates.

The experience of Sverdlovsk's Chkalovskiy Rayon Military Commissariat merits approval. A university of the future soldier has been set up here in which senior classmen of secondary schools, the chemical machine building tekhnikum, and the 4th and 24th vocational-technical schools study. Classes are held once a month in the Cultural Palace imeni 50th Anniversary of October. The subject matter is so arranged as to familiarize the future soldiers with all branches of the Armed Forces, combat arms, services and military specialties. Those who dream of becoming an officer are identified in the university and supplementary individual work is conducted with them. Military commissariat officers establish contact with schoolteachers, military instructors and the parents of candidates. This helps successfully implement plans for selection

of young people for training in military educational institutions and to send the best trained young men for studies from year to year.

Much depends on the activeness of military schools themselves and on their ability to begin the selection on the distant approaches, so to speak. Much that is positive in this sense can be seen at the Chelyabinsk Higher Military Aviation School of Navigators imeni 50th Anniversary of the Komsomol and in the Perm' and Kirov military aviation technical schools. They make it a practice to hold open days for senior classmen of schools and for pupils of tekhnikums and vocational-technical schools, and they put out booklets for the future cadet, methods recommendations on preparation for entrance examinations, and posters telling about the school's history and cadets' training and life. Instructors and cadets regularly conduct classes in military-patriotic schools which bring together those who wish to become an officer.

It has to be noted with regret that representatives of some schools perform insufficient work in the units and do not always have close ties with commanders and political workers. For example, at the Kiev Higher Combined-Arms Command School imeni M. V. Frunze and the Blagoveshchensk Higher Tank Command School imeni Mar SU K. A. Meretskov the percentage of first-year students who served in the Army is half that of other combined-arms and tank command schools. Among the reasons is a poor tie with units. School representatives rarely travel to troop units and are not able to arrange work of candidate selection objectively.

In analyzing results of selection of school candidates from among servicemen it is impossible to ignore mistakes made in the units. In some places even deputy regimental commanders who have this obligation from the regulation do not work on this seriously, with a sense of party responsibility. For example, in the unit commanded by Maj Yu. Zelenkov the selection plan was only 30-percent fulfilled. Only those privates and NCO's who themselves look for a way to make their dream come true became cadet candidates here. But no one really performed work with those who needed good advice and support.

At the same time there are many units and combined units which provide excellent students for military educational institutions. Lt Col V. Rachkovskiy devoted much attention to candidate selection this year. He met with each of the candidates, and the talks were comradely and confidential, helping the people reinforce the decision they had made. The unit does much for proper professional orientation of future cadets. An important role is played not only by subunit commanders and political officers, but also by chiefs of combat arms and services. The selection commission, in which representatives of district military schools are included, takes account of soldiers' desires and inclinations, family traditions, and the candidates' general educational and physical preparation.

There was a responsible attitude taken toward selecting students for military educational institutions in the combined unit where Lt Col I. Tikhanskiy is chief of the personnel section (Group of Soviet Forces in Germany). The selection plan here was fulfilled in all indicators. No small credit for this goes to the young officers. For example, Lt I. Levitskiy helped his subordinates,

sergeants V. Shorin and A. Skoptsov, choose a school they liked and acquire textbooks and supplementary literature, and he set aside time for self-training.

There are unfortunately instances where a serviceman who dreams of becoming an officer and who is well prepared is delayed in the unit or aboard a ship under various excuses, is not assisted in filling out documents, and he has a school imposed on him other than the one he wished to enter. At times narrow departmental interests of the moment hide an important state matter. It also is impossible to ignore the fact that officers who make mistakes in candidate selection do not always bear responsibility for this, and vice versa: Those who send really good students to the schools, the cream of the crop, are not always given encouragement. Much obviously also has to be done to ensure that the selection of worthy military personnel for training in military educational institutions becomes a tradition for every unit and ship.

One of the urgent tasks now is to hold high-quality monthly courses with cadet candidates. They are necessary for productive preparation for entrance examinations. It is impossible not to refresh servicemen's school knowledge, otherwise it will be difficult for them to learn. It is disappointing when appointed persons responsible for organizing the courses do not understand this, when they take candidates away for fatigue duties, and when they do not bring in experienced teachers for consultations. Last year there were many such deficiencies. It is important not to permit them to happen this year.

The officer corps has an enormous role to play in maintaining and improving combat readiness of the troops and naval forces. Concern for its worthy replacements is a concern for the Armed Forces combat potential. This concern begins with the selection of candidates for military schools and with the indoctrination of young patriots dreaming of the officer profession.

Government Exams at Academies Discussed

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Jun 82 p 1

[Article by KRSNAYA ZVEZDA Correspondent Capt M. Zakharchuk: "State Exams in Military Academies: Strengthened in Knowledge"]

[Text] The examination in operational-tactical training for graduates of the Frunze Military Academy is comprehensive. The first phase checks the students' theoretical preparation, and the second phase checks their ability to accomplish missions on the terrain.

The vast field where the Frunze students take the test is ringed with woods. The temporary tent camp also is on the forest edge. Terrain lying to the front has been recreated in ten large models. In presenting his plan, the student being tested clarifies details on the map and on the relief model where necessary.

Maj Yevgeniy Telenkov, who is providing an answer at the moment, hardly refers to the model. In issuing an order for an attack in the role of regimental

commander, he explains everything directly on the terrain, from the move as they say, and solves narrative problems given by subcommission representative Col M. Mel'nik quickly and confidently.

During this time I was observing Col I. Barilenko, an instructor of operational art. These are his students taking the test. It seemed to me that there was a shadow of dissatisfaction on Ivan Ivanovich's face. Perhaps he saw deficiencies in Maj Telenkov's response. But the teacher immediately dispelled my doubts:

"No, the student is answering competently. He knows the commander's job. It is simply that today is my last field trip with this group of students. Is it easy for anyone to say farewell?"

Maj Telenkov received a high grade. He arrived at the Academy from the position of battalion commander. As the test shows, he now is ready to accomplish missions of a higher order.

I recall the discussion with Lt Gen L. Kadatskiy, deputy chief of the Academy for academic work. Before going into the field we looked through the diploma projects of a number of students. Their basis consisted of questions involving division combat and the accomplishment of operational missions on a major scale. This is natural: Many graduates will take over regiments. Some will become deputy commanders of combined units. They establish the right to such high command posts with the knowledge shown in today's test.

Lt Col Oleg Mayorov is at a conditional regimental command post. In listening attentively to how Mayorov presents his concept for a meeting engagement, Col V. Klok, a member of the state examination commission, pays special attention to him:

"I consider his answer one of the best."

Such high praise is not by chance. Lt Col Mayorov commanded a motorized rifle regiment in the Order of Lenin Transbaikal Military District three years before entering the Academy. The regiment was distinguished by high combat readiness, stable successes in combat and political training, and precise organization of duties. Before graduation Mayorov requested he be sent again to the Transbaikal to continue service. By the way, the wish to serve on the Motherland's distant borders was expressed by a majority of the graduates.

The test is coming to a close. Majors A. Bugayev, V. Balashov and A. Nagorov and Capt S. Savichev discuss its results with satisfaction. One senses that they are satisfied with their responses and believe that they succeeded in revealing all their professional knowledge and skills. Faculty chief Lt Gen A. Mishagin also does not conceal his satisfaction. Every sixth graduate is vying for an honors diploma.

At the editors' request, Col Gen Yu. Naumenko, chairman of the state examination commission, comments on progress of the test in operational-tactical training:

The criteria with which we approach an evaluation of graduates' preparation are rigid. At the 6th All-Army Conference of Primary Party Organization Secretaries USSR Minister of Defense Mar SU D. F. Ustinov described in detail those qualities which now are most needed by the Soviet military leader. The test in operational-tactical training permits a thorough check of graduates' ability to think and act under conditions of a rigid time limit and enormous moral-psychological and physical stresses.

In the not too distant past graduates of the Frunze Military Academy gave an account only of theoretical preparation in the test for operational-tactical training. Now their practical skills also are tested directly in the field, on the terrain. It is the general opinion of members of the state examination commission that this permits evaluating the officers' ability to organize combat actions and to exercise command and control in a more thorough and objective manner.

On the whole the graduates demonstrate high professional expertise. One senses that the years of study at the Academy were for them a time of growth and improvement. The Armed Forces will receive ideologically conditioned, highly competent combined-arms officers who are capable of accomplishing difficult and responsible missions.

Link Training with Practice

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Jul 82 p 2

[Article by Lt Gen V. Ul'yanov, chief of Ordzhonikidze Higher Combined-Arms Command School imeni Mar SU A. I. Yeremenko: "Military Educational Institutions: Link between Training and Practical Work: Mutual Enrichment"]

[Text] Col N. Onopchenko directed the OJT of a group of cadets in one of the military units. The school representative attended many classes, saw how the cadets were organizing training, and shared opinions with the subunit commanders. On returning from TDY the instructor raised the issue before a methods session of the chair about deficiencies in the cadets' weapons training. There was a sharp, fundamental discussion which was of course not pleasant for all but, as time showed, it was very beneficial. The chair's party members took a more exacting, stricter approach to evaluating the results of their work. Adjustments were made to training methodology thanks to which future officers began to acquire more practical skills and prepare more objectively for their tomorrow as commanders.

This is seemingly a particular episode, but it shows how necessary and productive a living tie with the troops is for a military educational institution. The faster a school absorbs everything foremost born of troop practice and the deeper it delves into the service of its alumni, the young officers, the more effective is the training and indoctrination process. Much that is valuable can be adopted in units and combined units. On the other hand, a school also can share much with the troops and give practical workers adjusted, scientifically grounded suggestions on ways to solve urgent problems. Reinforcement of the link between training and practical work is one of the central tasks set for the higher school by the 26th CPSU Congress.

The TDY by representatives of a military educational institution to units and combined units represents a constantly operating channel for exchanging experience. School officers direct cadets' OJT and they themselves perform OJT in various command and staff positions and are brought in for troop exercises either in the role of umpires or with cadet subunits. Experience persuades us that much depends on the thoughtful organization of TDY. In any case the results of TDY must receive a fundamental, objective evaluation in the school. This obligates and inspires the officer.

Many examples can be given where instructors and commanders of cadet subunits try to make effective use of every hour they are in troop units. For example, Maj V. Savchenko, who directed the OJT of cadets in one of the motorized rifle regiments of the Baltic Military District, held a demonstration class there on rules of fire from the BMP [infantry fighting vehicle]. He employed programmed training cards developed at the school to accomplish fire missions. The regiment's officers liked the innovation and adopted it. They also borrowed a special target for checking and zeroing small arms.

Instructors Col Yu. Kopnin and Lt Col Yu. Chaykovskiy worked just as productively in the units. They assisted the cadet-OJT-ers in every way, tried to see that they fulfilled the training program fully and with quality, shared all the unit's concerns, shared knowledge with the officers and they themselves adopted experience.

In sending officers to troop units on TDY we obligate them to delve deeply into our graduates' service. The material they gather is carefully studied. In the past we were especially troubled by gaps in the methods training of school alumni. In 1975, for example, commanders noted this shortcoming in every fifth graduate. How could we beef up the methods training of future officers and where could we locate reserves for a deeper study of the foundations of military pedagogics and psychology? We devoted sessions of the school council and chair methods conferences to these matters, and discussed them at party meetings. Things got better. Almost 94 percent of the 1979 graduates are conducting classes in a methodologically competent manner, in the opinion of the unit commanders.

In generalizing the conclusions of the leaders of cadet OJT groups we also arrived at the following conclusions. In our opinion it is more advisable to conduct OJT of future officers in one and the same units. This reduces the time needed to resolve organizational matters and permits establishing firm personal contacts on the part of instructors with unit commanders and political officers and developing objective criteria for evaluating the OJT-ers' professional preparedness. There is a need for this. Commanders of the subunits in which cadets perform OJT often are unjustifiably generous in grading. You read some appraisals and wonder: Who is this about? A cadet testing his strength in a commander's calling or an expert in training and indoctrination? Time passes, the recent OJT-er ends up in the very same regiment in the rank of lieutenant, and his training is evaluated much more reservedly and strictly. Isn't it better to have a close look at a person when he still is wearing the cadet shoulderboards, not give advances, but help him find out where his strength lies and on what he has to work with special determination?

This was the reason the instructors and commanders took a satisfied attitude toward those changes which occurred in the OJT periods.

The troop OJT's of instructors enrich the military educational institution with a great deal. An OJT in command and staff positions helped Col P. Nikolenko, Lt Col B. Tubeyev, Engr-Lt Col A. Matiyash and Engr-Lt Col P. Soldatenko noticeably elevate the quality of instruction of special disciplines and infuse new spirit into working with people. Now the comrades see more clearly the ways to improve the training and indoctrination process.

In undergoing OJT in units of the North Caucasus Military District, majors A. Bykov and V. Sadovnikov gained experience in parallel planning of combat under conditions of limited time. This naturally had a positive effect on the nature of classes with cadets which the instructors conduct. Col Yu. Kopnin and Maj V. Savchenko adopted much that was instructive during OJT among troops of the Belorussian and Carpathian military districts. Thanks to troop experience we began to teach cadets more concretely the organization of combat on the terrain, conduct of subunit fire, the adjustment of sights, and rules for the upkeep of weapons and equipment.

Is every TDY trip effective? Unfortunately, not all officers, especially those appointed directors of cadet OJT, work purposefully and responsibly in the units. It happens where one comrade sees almost an excursion trip in the TDY. That was approximately what happened with Sr Lt A. Ivanov. He hardly took an interest in the progress of OJT, did not delve into the unit's experience and spent time idly. This and certain other examples indicate, aside from all else, that the TDY was not prepared carefully and the officer sent among the troops had not detailed his task completely.

The next order has been signed... A school officer's trip to a troop unit is a commonplace, routine phenomenon, and at the same time it is significant. Life requires that it be viewed in just this way. What is the school representative taking with him to the unit and what imprint will he leave there? What do we expect from him on his return? To ask these questions means to value one of the important forms of the military educational institution's link with the troops.

Graduates' Progress Examined

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Sep 82 p 2

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Correspondent Lt Col V. Zhitarenko and Gds Maj I. Sapuntsov, staff officer of Ural-L'vov Guards Volunteer Tank Division imeni Mar SU R. Ya. Malinovskiy: "A Commander's Development: A Year after Graduation"]

[Text] The graduates of higher command schools do not wear lieutenants' shoulderboards that long. Years will go by and they will become captains and majors... At the same time, the importance of the years as a lieutenant is exceptionally great in command development.

What kind of beginning in service do school graduates have? This is the angle from which we analyzed the service of lieutenants of the Ural-L'vov Guards Volunteer Tank Division imeni Mar SU R. Ya. Malinovskiy. Not all lieutenants, but only those who this summer celebrated the anniversary of their graduation from school.

During the year the lieutenants developed professionally, came to manhood and gained experience. We leaf through performance appraisals. "Worthy of advancement to the position of company commander," states one of them. There is the very same conclusion in the second and third... After the first year of service more than ten young officers have been recommended for advancement. By the way, there also are among them those who already received an advancement. Guards lieutenants A. Maslov and A. Khokhlov, yesterday's platoon commanders, have been appointed deputy company commanders for technical affairs. The appointment of young commanders to technical positions in the group of forces is not a rarity. Practical experience convinces us that in this post they gain valuable experience they need in the future. Many lieutenants in the division's artillery subunits have been appointed gun position officers. This also is recognition of increased proficiency.

The authors of these lines are familiar with the lieutenants not just from personal files. We met repeatedly with many of them at ranges, tank training areas and training classrooms. Senior commanders always spoke with warmth about the high professional training and service zeal of tank platoon commander Gds Lt A. Khleborob. In the very first year after graduation Gds Lt N. Borshchev had occasion to command a tank company for a long while. The five commendations from the regimental commander indicate that the officer coped with his duties. "Gives his all to service, is exacting toward subordinates and is close to them," is the comment of senior comrades about platoon commander Gds Lt V. Loginov. The tank platoon commanded by Gds Lt S. Naydenov, who completed military school with a gold medal, won the title of outstanding. But the beginning of command service did not prove successful for all lieutenants.

Some school graduates clumsily arrange indoctrinational work, do not feel confident at the controls of a tank or at a gun sight, and do not display initiative or enthusiasm in organizing socialist competition among subordinates. The combined unit commander and political officers are especially troubled by the fact that it is not every one of the lieutenants who sets an example of conscientious attitude toward service and faultless personal discipline. For example, Gds Lt V. Sverdlik managed to receive five punishments during the year.

The deciding word in command development rests with the officer himself. Without determined work on oneself, persistent training and self-indoctrination, even the most capable persons need not count on success. But as life convinces us, much also depends on the senior comrades and the attitude toward school graduates in the subunit and unit. The facts speak for themselves.

There is not one young officer who has been given disciplinary punishment in the regiment where guards lieutenants Khleborob and Naydenov serve--this is

the best regiment in the division. Here they are able to help the lieutenant display his best qualities, they promptly take note of gaps in his professional training and shortcomings in his character and help remedy them.

Just how is the work with young officers arranged in the regiment? There is much that is traditional and customary in it. A cordial greeting for the officer replacement, familiarization of the lieutenants with the history and campaign record of the regiment and division, and a check of their job qualities during practical classes in the field. Individual work with officers is in the foreground for the regimental commander and his deputies: attendance at classes which the young officers conduct, their detailed critique, and confidential, comradely talks in the office, in the training classroom, or in the officers' dormitory.

Collective indoctrinational activities with the young officers in the regiment are organized thoughtfully and carefully. We recall the following episode. Once it was decided to draw up a calendar plan of training and indoctrination measures which would take in all directions and all issues, even particular ones. We took account of suggestions given by chiefs of combat arms and services and the battalion commanders. The plan was drawn up colorfully on sheets of Whatman paper glued together. When the "tablecloth" was spread out on the regimental commander's desk, silence reigned. Then the commander pensively uttered:

"Interesting. If we ceased combat training and directed all efforts at implementing the plan would we be able to carry out everything outlined or not?"

"I doubt it!" said the deputy regimental commander for political affairs shaking his head.

It was then a firm decision originated: to leave only the most important, most essential in the plan and see to it that each activity was permeated with a precise political approach, touched people to the quick and generated sincere enthusiasm. Once a quarter--this is the rule--an exchange of experience among young officers is organized in the regiment. The unit commander and his deputies prepare this businesslike meeting. There are planned talks to the lieutenants by senior comrades: the commanders of the best companies, batteries and battalions, political workers, and specialists of combat arms and services at the regimental level.

As mentioned earlier, the stress has been placed on individual work. Each of the young officers knows how his work is evaluated and where his strong points and weaknesses lie. A differentiated approach also is taken to command training. In the unit commander's opinion, military school graduates should not spend time to go over what they have covered, but learn new things and develop professionally. The past year really became a year of growth and of political and moral maturing for the regiment's lieutenants.

There is much that is interesting and instructive in the work with young officers in the adjacent regiment as well. Here too the command training plans are being fulfilled. There are successful, interesting activities of an

indoctrinational nature. The regimental commander and staff have adjusted supervision over strict observance of the requirements of documents regulating the training process and service. But here is what strikes the eye: After each check the young commanders are punished for omissions and mistakes. Half of the unit's lieutenants have punishments. Motorized rifle platoon commander Gds Lt S. Khokhlov even has been cautioned about incomplete conformity with service. In this connection the division commander asked the regimental commander a reasonable question: Just what position then does the graduate of a higher military school conform to?

The strictness of senior officers is understandable. Indoctrination is inconceivable without this. But it is impossible to ignore the features in the development of a young officer and his age. It is truly worthwhile pondering why school graduates feel confident, constantly improve and set an example of discipline in one regiment while in another they cannot earn respect and trust.

And we would like to share one other conclusion. There are typical, repetitive shortcomings in the professional training of graduates of a number of schools, such as the Kazan' Higher Tank Command School imeni Tatar ASSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Tbilisi Higher Artillery Command School imeni 26 Baku Commissars. Without question, mistakes in the very organization of the training and indoctrination process are telling. Attention has to be drawn to this.

Some schools unfortunately do not value ties with units or the opinion among the troops about their graduates' training level. This year many division officers especially visited certain schools to speak to instructors and cadets and share thoughts about ways to improve the effectiveness of the training and indoctrination process. Some were greeted with gratitude and thanks, while others were met with surprise, as if to say: It's difficult to arrange a meeting; if you need a mark for performance of the assignment, we'll give you a checkmark even so.

The 1982 graduates were warmly greeted in the Ural-L'vov Division. What will their development be like? It depends on the industriousness, zeal and sense of responsibility of the lieutenants themselves, on the ability of senior officers to help them, and on the readiness of units and military educational institutions to unify efforts in the job of training and indoctrinating young officer cadres.

Practical Training for Instructors

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Sep 82 p 2

[Article by Maj Gen Arty F. Neupokoyev, chief of chair of Military Command Academy of Air Defense imeni Mar SU G. K. Zhukov, doctor of military sciences, professor: "How to Raise the Effectiveness of Instructors' OJT Among the Troops: Life Demands This"]

[Text] An instructor's departure for troop OJT is an event. It is an event for the officer himself, as the instructor usually performs OJT once every

5-7 years. It is an event for the chair where he works and for the entire academy. The OJT of members of the faculty in units and combined units is an effective form for maintaining the military educational institution's living link with the troops.

We begin preparation for OJT by determining the place it is to be conducted and the OJT-er's position. Here we take account of many factors: the instructor's troop experience and pedagogic specialization; the chair's needs in elaborating particular sections of training disciplines; the outfitting of the unit or combined unit with new equipment and automated control systems; and the missions being accomplished by the troops in this period. Tactics instructors, for example, perform OJT in command and staff positions in combined units and units, and firing instructors perform OJT at ranges. Armament instructors are sent to engineer positions in troop units.

Life has convinced us that OJT is most advisable in those combined units and units which are accomplishing operational training missions under especially difficult conditions.

For example, a combined unit which had a command post with modern equipment was chosen for the OJT of tactics instructor Col A. Paliy. The experience of organizing combat work at this CP was necessary to introduce into the practice of training academy students. The instructor studied CP equipment and features of the combat team's work, assimilated well the duties of chief of the combat arm in whose position he was performing OJT, and returned to the academy with valuable experience for everyone.

At one time there were hesitations: Was it worthwhile to send an instructor on TDY to a unit where the equipment was modern but combat training results were low? Many were inclined to conduct the OJT only in the best combined units. Later they concluded that it is also a task of the educational institution to study why foremost experience is not taking root in some units and what is giving rise to the deficiencies.

We determine the position for OJT based on interests of the training discipline which the instructor teaches. The principle of an "official growth" of the instructor from OJT to OJT is not mandatory. For example, it is fully admissible to have a repeat OJT in the position of regimental commander. Time has passed, the regiment has become qualitatively different and much has changed in the work style and methods of the commander. This unquestionably does not preclude the need for OJT in higher positions as well. One must remember that an instructor may be assigned to operational work among the troops at any moment.

The OJT plan drawn up at the academy has to be corrected directly in the troop units and only after this is it approved. It was thanks to a correction in the plan that OJT instructor Engr-Col E. Yakushov conducted a study equally important both to the academy and the troops.

I would like to see commanders and staffs, in examining and approving OJT plans, demand that the OJT-ers and the chairs as well give more assistance to

the troops and that there be a joint accomplishment of the most urgent tasks. The academy of course has to know about these demands ahead of time--1½-2 months before the instructor leaves for the troops. The officer will be able to prepare more thoroughly, select necessary materials and so on. The instructor's preliminary TDY to the unit or combined unit for coordinating the OJT program has proven itself. It is true that we make it a more frequent practice to correspond with the appropriate staff. Such contacts also are useful.

For example, having contacted the unit range ahead of time, we oriented the OJT-er on generalizing the experience of tactical field fire exercises and the features of performing difficult kinds of firing. The chair was interested in the question of how our graduates would give an account of themselves in difficult tests. Col I. Grunt, an instructor in surface-to-air guided missile firing (he performed OJT in the position of deputy range commander), took a direct part in checks of regimental-level officers, processed statistical material on firing results over the last four years and drew conclusions about their effectiveness. His analytical work became a serious help for the chair in training and indoctrinating students.

There is great importance in troop OJT, but there are problems in organizing it. The OJT instructor among the troops usually acts as a back-up for the authorized appointment. At times he unfortunately resembles a guest who is studying particular matters in the unit on his own. The teacher gets little practice (or none at all) in performing duties in the position which he is learning. This reduces the effectiveness of the OJT. It is important for the OJT-er to perform official duties to the full extent and bear responsibility for his work.

I recall my front OJT. After I completed military school it was decided to assign me as a cadet platoon commander and I was sent into the army in the field to acquire frontline experience. I assumed command of a battery of 122-mm howitzers, the commander of which left for training in the rear that same day. In a few hours the battery was conducting fire against the enemy. There was not even time to think about the fact that I was an OJT-er.

Placing full responsibility for a position on OJT-ers who are instructors at academies as well as of higher military schools undoubtedly would increase the importance of OJT and its return, especially for young teachers who have completed post graduate work. They are well prepared theoretically, but have no extensive experience in troop work. It would appear that the present length of OJT at 2-3 months is fully sufficient for instructors who have come into the academy from the troops. But in our view it is advisable to plan OJT among the troops lasting up to a year for prospective young teachers from among post graduate students, and with complete performance of the position's duties. Instructors should be sent on such OJT based on a conclusion of certification commissions.

It appears to be necessary also to expand the sphere of OJT somewhat. Scientific-pedagogic workers of civilian higher educational institutions perform practical work not only at leading enterprises, but also in leading

educational institutions of the country. In our opinion an instructor exchange for a month or a month and a half among military academies would be useful. The need for an exchange of experience and mutual enrichment with it is vitally necessary.

The Soviet military school is faced with responsible tasks. The quality of their accomplishment also depends on the effectiveness of instructor OJT among the troops. The organization of them must be improved with consideration of life's demands.

'Vystrel' Courses Outlined

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Sep 82 p 2

[Article by KRSNAYA ZVEZDA Correspondent Lt Col G. Miranovich: "Related at the Readers' Request: Higher Officer Courses"]

[Text] Dear Editors! Our regiment has officers who at various times studied at the "Vystrel" Courses. They speak very warmly about this educational institution, where in a short time they underwent good command training. I would like to read a story in the newspaper about the past and present of these Courses.

Capt A. Bakibasov

The first officer with whom we met at "Vystrel" was Lt Col F. Bochkovoy, the duty officer for the Courses.

"At what facilities is training now going on?" he said, repeating our question and, smiling, began to tick it off on his fingers. "The tactical field--organization of combat and command and control on the terrain. The BMP [infantry fighting vehicle] moving target gunnery range--performance of firing exercises from the infantry fighting vehicle day and night. The tank training area--tank driving with reserve officers. The artillery training complex--a demonstration class for students from fraternal armies. The chemical compound... But why waste time? Drive along the lakeshore and you will see everything there."

The "Vystrel" Orders of Lenin and October Revolution, Red Banner Higher Officer Courses imeni Mar SU B. M. Shaposhnikov. Their life is dynamic and crammed to the limit. After visiting only a few of the training points named by the duty officer we realized that it was not without purpose he was being concerned with the time. Not one minute there goes by without being of benefit to the work.

A group of students heads for a bus. They are to make a march to the vicinity of the tactical field, where those very problems mentioned by the duty officer would be worked. Hardly had the trainees taken their places in the bus when the instructor announced:

"Comrade officers! I would like you to listen to the report of the reconnaissance group commander and estimate the situation."

There was the click of a switch and the voice of the reconnaissance group commander recorded on magnetic tape was heard in the bus. As his report went on the instructor used a video tape recorder to show the officers models of "enemy" combat equipment and weapons detected by reconnaissance and reviewed their specifications. The report was over. The students estimated the situation in turn, with their answers also recorded on magnetic tape. Later during the critique the most acceptable variants would be found through common efforts and each would see his own mistakes. Thus even before the class began, intense combat work was going on in the bus, which had been converted by skilled hands into a unique mobile training point...

Time does not wait, time hastens. The "Vystrel" personnel have a special attitude toward it, determined by the specific features themselves of this oldest educational institution in our Armed Forces.

Just eight months after it was set up RVSR [Republic Revolutionary Military Council] Order No 1151 dated 18 July 1919 defined it more exactly: "The afore-said Courses are to be manned with Red Army personnel intended for command of regiments and having combat experience but requiring an augmentation of their store of military-scientific knowledge."

The Courses justified their purpose. Under the very difficult conditions of the Civil War they provided the young Red Army with thousands of well trained commanders in compressed periods of time, and they fought courageously for the revolutionary cause. During four years of the Great Patriotic War there were over 40 graduations of students here and more than 20,000 commanders were trained for the front.

Over 40 graduations in four years... How skillfully each minute had to be used to master the program! As indicated by documents of those years, it was necessary to study 12 hours a day.

There also are documents which give us an opportunity to understand better what helped the "Vystrel" personnel hold out and win. These documents are proof of the supreme patriotic enthusiasm which reigned among our command cadres in that stern time.

On 3 October 1942 the Courses were given the name of Mar SU B. M. Shaposhnikov by USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Ukase. A ceremonial assembly of the personnel was held here on this occasion.

"We swear," went the greeting adopted there for B. M. Shaposhnikov, who celebrated his 60th birthday in those days, "to bear your name with honor and to strain every nerve even more to perform the missions assigned by the People's Commissar of Defense."

The Courses have borne the name of B. M. Shaposhnikov, whose centennial we celebrate this year, for 40 years now with honor. Much has changed in their

make-up during this time. A many-sided military educational institution of a higher profile developed on the shore of a suburban Moscow lake out of the rifle school for training infantry. Today you will find here the motorized rifleman, tankman, artilleryman and officer of special troops. Staff officers, specialists of various Ground Forces unit and combined unit services, and military teachers perfect their expertise here along with commanders and political officers. Continuing traditions of international combat solidarity, the Courses do much to train the military cadres of socialist countries.

The "Officers' Field Academy," as "Vystrel" is called among the troops, has taken long strides in the material and technical sense as well. The "Vystrel" training facility can be said to be a major contemporary scientific-technical complex the chief purpose of which is intensification of the training process.

Various simulator systems and educational television have been especially widespread in recent years. Col M. Fal'kovskiy, chief of the technical training equipment laboratory, showed us rather proudly a training film in which material on one of the tactical training subjects is presented with the help of animated cartooning. In the simplicity of perception and graphic effect this training aid perhaps can be called unique without exaggeration. Its authors are Capt N. Borzdykh, WO V. Zhabin, Pvt V. Polyakov, Pvt R. Khrushch and other laboratory specialists.

It is impossible to enumerate what has been done by the hands of skilled craftsmen to improve the Courses' training facility. This largely is determined by the concern shown here for the development of military-scientific work. Col Gen Tank Trps D. Dragunskiy, Twice-Honored HSU and chief of the Courses, and the political department and party organizations actively direct the collective's creative efforts at making all necessary conditions for teaching officers what is necessary in war. Many works of "Vystrel" personnel which examine current issues connected with an improvement in unit and subunit operating tactics, the methodology of training and indoctrinating personnel, and tactical employment of modern weapons are widely known among the troops.

The practical direction of the work with students and compressed training periods demand that there be the closest tie between the Courses' instructors and the troops, and this tie is continuously maintained. It can be said that "Vystrel" absorbs troop experience in order to give it back to the troops after enriching it, for these are not novices in military affairs who are improving their training here. Students have service in areas with differing geographic and climatic conditions under their belts. They have something to say both to the instructors and to each other. For this reason all seminar classes both on combat training subjects and on social disciplines bear the nature of an exchange of experience. There are no indifferent persons in the audience if, let's say, the experience of organizing for combat in the mountains is being shared by Order of Red Star wearer Maj N. Orlov or if Lt Col V. Nefedov, awarded the Order "For Service to the Motherland in the USSR Armed Forces" 3d Class and the "For Combat Merit" medal, tells how he arranged party-political work in Exercise "Zapad-81."

"At the 'Vystrel' Courses," says Col N. Chebykin, chief of the cycle of the history of the CPSU and party-political work, "an officer becomes not just an expert in military affairs. Our task is to make him a good methods specialist, competition organizer and skilled indoctrinator as well."

Yes, the Higher Officer Courses teach a great deal, and everything for which "Vystrel" now is famed is connected with them, the instructors. Instructors such as Col Chebykin and dozens of other military teacher-party members are giving the fire of their minds and hearts to a beloved cause

When we left the Courses Lt Col Bochkovoy was turning over his duty. A methods elaboration on one of the tactical training subjects already was lying on his desk next to the other documents. That meant tomorrow they would again be in the field.

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